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Southeast Asia Report

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'TEXT' OF HAYDEN'S 4 JUL 84 URANIUM, JOINT FACILITIES SPEECH

Melbourne THE AGE in English 3 Jul 84 p 13

["Edited Text" of Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden's 4 July 1984 Speech to the National Press Club in Canberra: "Man, Whose Continued Existence Is in Doubt"]

[Text]

I shall come directly to the point. That point is to explain why the Government's informed and principled view is that the mining and export of uranium and the presence here of the joint American-Australian defence facilities are integral to our pursuit of arms control and disarmament.

I used the phrase "informed and principled" to describe the Government's view with deliberateness. It describes exactly what I mean.

I realise it will come as rather a shock to those people who see the argument about these issues in terms of undeclared principle versus brutal pragmatism. I hope that those who believe in such a situation can be persuaded otherwise. I'm interested in reaching all those people who are concerned about these crucial issues and want to understand more about them.

But we've got to be careful that the argument is not wasted by round after round of slogans and platitudes and handwringing. I respect arguments based on sincerity and morality. But I loathe moralising. Thirty years ago, when Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein and others drew up the founding declaration of the Pugwash Movement, they began with the words: "Man, whose continued existence is in doubt..."

These were people who used words as precisely as they used numbers. The words they used in the declaration disturbed me as a young man. They still do.

I mention this because I don't

want to hear any nonsense questioning my motives in the work I've put in around Australia asking for support for the Government's attitudes on uranium and the joint facilities. In opposition and in government, I've been pressing support for these attitudes. I reached my opinion after very carefully considering all the relevant information.

And the reason I've pushed it as steadily as I have is that it supports the only realistic and honorable options open to any government that is committed in present circumstances to peace through arms control and disarmament.

There's no more critical issue facing us. And no side has sole custody of truth or morality in the debate about it. So it behoves us all to conduct the debate with honesty and without vindictiveness.

A tragic paradox confronts us with scientific and technological advance. It's hard to think of any scientific innovation — however beneficial it was meant to be — that has not been refined ultimately into a potential method of waging war. This has been so since the first ploughshare was beaten into a sword.

The concept of splitting the atom was at first an interesting scientific abstraction. It became more attractive later when its economic and energy potential was appreciated. But it became a cause only when Governments understood its military potential. Massive resources were then thrown into it. As a result, a network of nuclear weaponry girdles and threatens the entire globe.

There are abundant statistics which describe the horror of the situation. The enormity of it — the destructive capacity of nuclear weapons is so huge that the statistics numb the mind.

We have our own chilling measurement for the weapons we face. We list them in order of the numbers of Hiroshimas they can obliterate. There are 50,000 of these things cocked and ready to go. Unless we can put a stop to it, there will be 60,000 by the 1990s. Back in the 19th century, Bismarck was asked what he thought would cause the next war in Europe — the nearest catastrophe they had in those days to nuclear war. "Oh it will be some damned foolishness in the Balkans," he said. Well, if the onset of war then was as easy as that, how much more so now. All it will take is some damned foolishness somewhere.

Whatever the reasons, nuclear weapons exist and they exist in abundance. New technologies are adding destabilising elements to the situation. The nuclear weapons States have made it absolutely and brutally clear that unilateral disarmament is not a realistic option. Other nations are showing the interest and the potential to get into the act. Everybody agrees that nuclear war — however circumscribed it is intended to be — will be total. It cannot be limited. That's the situation facing us. We can't walk away from it. As I've said, when nuclear war comes, it comes everywhere. So what can we do about it?

I shall start my answer by pointing out what we can't do — that is, if we're really serious in our commitment to peace through arms control and disarmament. Opposing nuclear weapons in meetings or passing resolutions deploring them and all the activities exemplified by the Palm Sunday marches are an important part of the answer. It's important to keep up the pressure. It's important to demonstrate that ordinary people everywhere are frightened and frustrated because so little progress seems to have been made towards disarmament, despite all the promises.

But it would be tragic if this activity gave the impression that disarmament is as uncomplicated as some people imply. It's a valuable and necessary part of the disarmament program. That's an undeniable and welcome fact. But it's not an alternative to the kind of policies being pursued by the Australian Government.

As John Stuart Mill pointed out, against a great evil, a small remedy does not produce a small result. It produces no result at all. On their own, these activities won't change a thing. That fact is also undeniable. If people are encouraged to think that all it takes is for nations simply to declare themselves out of the nuclear weapons business, we won't get anywhere.

Experience shows that disarmament will be a long, complex and even tortuous process. So Australia is in an extraordinarily strong position to nudge disarmament along in an unspectacular but effective way. We can — better than most countries — get the disarmament issue out of the streets and into the corridors of real power where the decisions will eventually be made. This Government, for example, has set programs in train which prove it to be more committed to disarmament than any administration since the days of Chieffy and Evatt.

These programs are not only sensible, they are also independent. If conventional war is too important a matter to be left to the generals, nuclear war is too critical to be left to the superpowers.

Australia has been instrumental in bringing about significant progress on the long road towards a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. Such a treaty has been given the highest possible priority by the Australian Government. It would prohibit all nuclear testing. At the 38th General Assembly of the United Nations last year, Australia and New Zealand persuaded the United States to abstain from rather than vote against our joint resolution calling for a comprehensive treaty. The US had voted no the previous year. Abstention means that a country is willing to allow a resolution to be adopted, so the American change was substantial.

The key part of the joint resolution called for the conference on disarmament at Geneva to resume its examination of issues relating to a treaty and, I quote, "with a view to the negotiation of a treaty on the subject". The wording is important because it subsequently became the basis for a draft mandate which we have proposed to re-established the subsidiary body at the Geneva conference which deals with the test-ban issue.

Secretary of State George Shultz has today sent me a letter

formally notifying us that the United States supports a formula by which the treaty can be discussed at Geneva. I intend to send a personal message to Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko seeking his support. Australia is now attempting to get acceptance of the formula from the rest of the members of the Geneva conference. In other words, the proposal for a comprehensive test-ban treaty is now back on the agenda.

I'll give a few more examples of the pace and depth of our disarmament policies. We have used our position as a major and responsible exporter of uranium to promote the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. We are part of the effort for a successful outcome of the international conference which will review the treaty next year. This treaty is the single-most effective arms control and disarmament measure in existence.

We are working for the establishing of a subsidiary body to the conference on disarmament taking place in Geneva which will consider the dangers and other implications of using other space for the nuclear arms race. We are helping in a practical way towards verifying whether or not disarmament obligations are being observed.

We are working in support of an American draft convention to prohibit chemical weapons which is now before the Geneva conference.

The Government is active in the search for a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean, bilaterally and as a member of the UN ad hoc committee on the Indian Ocean where the proposal is being pursued.

The Government appointed Richard Butler as Australia's first ever Ambassador for Disarmament last July. He has been active at the conference in Geneva in support of our policies for effective prohibition of nuclear testing and chemical weapons.

Another reason for our influence is the practical role we play in arms control and disarmament through the presence here of the joint defence facilities and our mining and export of uranium. It is the Government's unshakeable view that removal of the facilities or an end to the uranium mining will undermine — if not destroy — our capacity to influence the course of arms control and disarmament.

The Government is committed to complete nuclear disarmament. Until disarmament is won, it supports deterrence as the only

effective alternative and it believes that the joint facilities and our position as a producer of uranium give us an unusual opportunity to make deterrence effective.

Deterrence is only acceptable as a transitional concept along the way to total disarmament. While we've got our eye on disarmament, we must hang on to the most effective option open to us to keep the peace. The joint facilities contribute to deterrence by providing early warning of developments that threaten the peace. If we were to abolish them, therefore, we would be aiming a major blow at the cause of peace through arms control.

The other purpose of the facilities... is their monitoring capacity as part of the verification of arms control agreements. No such agreement between the superpowers is possible if either side is unsure about the other side's ability to cheat. Neither superpower has been able to agree so far on full on-site inspection.

The only way in which agreements can be verified is through the mechanism known as the national technical means of verification. Pine Gap and Nurrungar are irreplaceable for this purpose. It's highly unlikely that some major arms control agreements between the superpowers would have been reached if it had not been for these two facilities. Those people who are demanding the abolition of these facilities should have a good long think about that.

I urge the same care on those who are demanding the break-up of Australia's uranium industry. I also urge those involved in the debate to recognise that — with uranium as with the joint facilities — no one side has all the right and all the principle.

No State has used nuclear materials under international safeguards to make nuclear weapons. Our refusal to supply uranium will provide no impediment to the development of nuclear weapons by other States. Our strict safeguards system enables us to ensure that Australian uranium which is exported for use in the civil nuclear fuel cycle cannot be diverted to military programs.

Those who want the Government to do a U-turn on the joint facilities and uranium are suffering from a delusion that is truly dangerous. What they are porposing won't help peace at all. It will destroy it. Their position reminds me of the poem by Lord Dunsany about Helen of Troy:

"And were you pleased?" they
asked of Helen in hell.
"Pleased?" answered she, "when
all Troy's towers fell,
And dead were Priam's sons, and
lost his throne?
And such a war was fought as
none had known,
And even the gods took part, and
all best use
Of me alone? Pleased? I should
say I was?"

9

WRITER ANALYZES, CRITICIZES ROLE OF U.S. BASES

Melbourne THE AGE in English 5 Jul 84 p 13

[Commentary by Keith Davidson: "What Does Australia Get From US Bases?"]

[Text]

I STILL can't make up my mind about Bill Hayden. Does he really believe all that stuff he puts out as Foreign Affairs Minister on the Indonesian relationship and the US alliance, or is he trying to stir up the debate to make changes possible?

It is not sensible for Governments to get too far ahead of public opinion, and while the majority of Australians believe it is impossible (or too expensive) to defend Australia out of Australian resources, we will continue to have a policy of appeasement towards Indonesia over Timor and Papua New Guinea, and total commitment to integration in the American nuclear strategy.

Everybody who has thought about the American bases in Australia for more than three minutes accepts that they are a potential nuclear target in the event of a nuclear exchange between the US and the USSR.

The argument now is what return Australia gets for being a nuclear target. Is there a pay-off in terms of Australian or global security?

A growing number of Australians believe the costs far outweigh the benefits. Would the US defend Australia against Indonesia, especially if the Indonesians made it clear that any action they took against Australia would not affect the status of the US bases?

An Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs

says that the US, "is capable of decisive action — and willing to render it". But this is not spelled out in the ANZUS alliance, and it is in conflict with the 1969 Guam Doctrine which states in effect that the US will defend Australia only in the case of an attack by the Soviet Union.

As the Soviet Union could mount an invasion against Australia only by denuding its forces on its Chinese and European borders, conventional attack is unlikely. There would be no reason for a Soviet nuclear attack against Australia without the US bases.

In the case of Indonesia, the US has sided with Indonesia against Australia over the invasion of Timor and the incorporation of West Irian, on the grounds that Indonesia has a greater strategic importance to US interests than Australia.

This then leaves the question of whether the US bases contribute to Australian security by contributing to global security and reducing the risk of nuclear war.

It was at this level that Mr Hayden attempted to defend the bases in his address to the National Press Club yesterday.

Mr Hayden argues (quite rightly in my opinion) that unilateral disarmament is not a realistic solution to the threat of nuclear war; that deterrence is.

According to Mr Hayden, "one side in a nuclear exchange must be certain that, if it attacks first, it will be destroyed by retaliation by the other side. The obvious result

is that each side is deterred from initiating a nuclear attack on the other."

Fair enough. The question then becomes, in terms of Mr Hayden's rational dialogue, do the bases contribute to the US ability to deter the USSR from launching a nuclear attack on the Western world?

Polaris submarines have been the ultimate deterrent weapon because they can remain undetected and can launch a second strike against Soviet cities in retaliation for a Soviet strike against US cities.

But one nuclear submarine carries enough nuclear warheads to wipe out all Soviet cities with a population in excess of 250,000. Given the redundancy factor in USSR and US nuclear stockpiles of about seven to 12 times the number of weapons needed to wipe out civilisation, the question can legitimately be asked whether the removal of the North-West Cape facility would in any material way diminish US ability to deter a Soviet nuclear attack.

Even more important, now that Polaris submarines are being phased out, the North-West Cape facility is being used to communicate with hunter killer subs which are not nuclear strategic submarines and, therefore, have nothing to do with deterrence.

The function of these submarines is to hunt down Soviet submarines and, by pinpointing their position, undermine their deterrent value to the Soviet Union.

This is a war-fighting capability rather than a deterrent capability and, as such, adds to global nuclear instability and the likelihood of nuclear war.

On the criteria set by Mr Hayden and Mr Hawke — the North-West Cape facility should be closed down. Until it is, the so-called peace initiatives, such as the appointment of an ambassador for disarmament and other claims of Australia's being an honest broker, must be seen for what they are — cynical deceptions aimed exclusively at the Australian people.

There is a better case to be made for retention of Nurrungar and Pine Gap. The former gives the US a 30-minute warning of a

Soviet missile launch, enough time for the US to get its nuclear bombers in the air and ICBM's out of their silos and guarantee the US second-strike capability.

Nurrungar can be justified on the ground that it contributes to deterrence. Pine Gap collects intelligence through communication satellites which intercept messages and could be justified on the ground that it could be an aid to stopping an accidental nuclear exchange.

It has the capability of intercepting Australian communications. Australia has been assured that it has not been used for this purpose. These assurances could be believed if only because it is difficult to see what secrets Australia might have that the US would want. And if Australia did have secrets, they could be obtained more cost-effectively by going directly to the Government or indirectly through Australia's so-called security agencies.

Set against Mr Hayden's claims of Australia's considerable influence in world forums on disarmament and peace is the fact that there is not one word in either the speech or the departmental document that implies any criticism of the US. In fact, the document goes to absurd lengths to justify the policies of the Reagan Administration.

For instance, President Reagan's "Star wars" investment, designed to intercept incoming ballistic missiles, is described as "... highly moral ... It is to seek to replace the doctrine of assured destruction, based on attack with a morally much more acceptable concept of assured defence".

Once you have assured defence against nuclear attack (an impossibility), it is possible to fight a nuclear war and win, according to President Reagan's strategic advisers.

This sort of thinking, and the investment of billions of dollars to get the systems to achieve this strategy is nuclear madness.

It is this thinking which is directly responsible for the explosive growth in the peace movement in Western Europe and America, as well as Australia, in the past couple of years.

AGE URGES CARE, MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WITH INDONESIA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 5 Jul 84 p 13

[Editorial: "Understanding Indonesia"]

[Text]

SOMETIMES it seems even to many Australians that the Labor Party moves in strange and mysterious ways. Isn't it logical then that Indonesia's leaders should be puzzled, angered and frustrated by the internal struggle over policy on East Timor? The answer is no. The cultural-gap argument is convenient, but incorrect: Indonesia's soldier-politicians, particularly the Javanese, are accustomed to intricate manoeuvrings in the name of consensus. Indeed, decision making in Indonesia is traditionally built around the ideals of musyawarah (consultation) and mufakat (consensus). Indonesia's leaders would, moreover, hold their own with the numbers men and the Machiavellis of the Labor Party; they are sophisticated enough to know the difference between democracy Australian-style and guided democracy in the Indonesian fashion; they certainly do no more than share the paranoia of many Australian politicians about the media.

Australians, for the most part, should be able to understand the immense problems Indonesia faces: problems of poverty, of overcrowding, particularly in Central Java, of a lack of political and developmental infrastructure and that paramount problem for a former colony — the boundaries of which, drawn to suit the coloniser, sprawl over different islands and ethnic groups — the problem of national unity. But to understand the dimensions of problems does not, and cannot, lead to approval of the means used to solve them. The Indonesian invasion of East Timor was wrong. The methods the authorities used to incorporate the population into Indonesia were wrong and, in many aspects, probably still are. It is not being culturally superior to make these judgments: Australia's treatment of Aborigines was wrong and, in some aspects, still is.

Nor did Australian Governments cover themselves with glory before, during and after the East Timor invasion. There were sins of omission, if not commission.

In Opposition, the Labor Party formulated a policy on East Timor which was full of anger and high principle: the 1982 Federal conference recognised "the inalienable right of the East Timorese to self-determination and independence" and condemned and rejected the then Federal Government's recognition of Indonesia's annexation of East Timor. It also opposed all defence aid to Indonesia until there was a complete withdrawal of troops. In Government, the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, effectively tore up the resolution in an exercise in pragmatism. But next week, sections of the party will attempt to put the policy back on the books, perhaps in a tougher form. Their cause has been served by some reports out of East Timor, particularly the allegations of the bishop of Dili of mass arrests, torture and executions. And there is the reluctance of Indonesia to allow free scrutiny of East Timor. Truth has undoubtedly been caught in a crossfire, but the Indonesians have left a giant question mark over their actions: what is being hidden?

One fact does seem clear, however. Indonesia regards East Timor as part of the nation. History may often surprise us all, but the incorporation seems irreversible and an act of free choice inconceivable. Given this, surely the task of the Labor Party and the Government should be to help the East Timorese through aid, by pressing for scrutiny and, perhaps, when the heat dies down, by suggesting a form of limited autonomy (though this, too, looks a dim hope). There is nothing to be gained by attempting to bully the Indonesians. Nor should they be allowed to bully us or Papua New Guinea.

The troubles of Irian Jaya and the border have raised the temperature of the Timor debate, but they are serious in themselves. Given the extent of the transmigration program, reaction by Melanesians is likely to grow much stronger and the ripples are likely to wash increasingly across the ill-defined border. Australia helped prepare PNG for independence (if less adequately than it should have) and is committed to its territorial integrity. Sovereignty starts at the border which, it seems, has been twice violated by Indonesia. Surely the commander of the armed forces, General Benny Murdani, could advise his men on the ground to be careful where they tread. Perhaps that could be a text, too, for both the Australian and Indonesian Governments. This does not mean a craven tip-toeing around difficulties, but the facing of them honestly and with an attempt at mutual understanding.

BURMA

PROGRESS IN ELECTRIC POWER REPORTED

Rangoon PYITHU TATMADAW SAZIN in Burmese 15 Nov 83 pp 27-31

[Text] In connection with today's development of the country every effort is being made for the progress of economic and social conditions.

For the purpose of economic development tremendous steps are being taken in agricultural projects. At the same time, industrial development is being encouraged with equal vigor by implementing a policy for the building of more factories.

In the development of economic and social projects, the one industry that is most needed is the electricity production industry. For the purpose of increasing electricity production the policy of the Electric Power Corporation is being adhered to and implemented.

The 2 megawatt generators that are at the natural gas-fired electric generator project at Ywama, Insein, are being converted into fuel-using generators [as published] and work is proceeding as planned. About 90 percent of the required work has already been done.

At the natural gas-fired electric generator project in Prome, the 18 megawatt unit has been providing power to the township since 26 February 1982. The other megawatt unit has been tested and [is running] successfully.

In the construction of the natural gas-fired generator at Chauk, seven 2-megawatt generators and a 132-kV switchyard have been constructed. Electrical control boxes were also constructed and 90 percent of them have been installed. In addition to an 11-kV switchyard, accessories have been fitted and the pipes for the supply of natural gas will be laid and connected by the end of August 1982 [as published]

For the natural gas-fired generators at Kyaiklat, the site has been prepared and 52-megawatt generators have reached the construction site. Temporary homes, warehouses, and factories for the projects have also been constructed. For the construction of steam-powered generators in Thaton, the Industrial Planning Corporation has prepared the necessary grounds and buildings and is making arrangements for the supply of the required hardware, electrical experts and equipment.

A hydroelectric power plant is planned for Zaungtu. The construction of a dam will also assist in supplying drinking water. The necessary field work such as surveying of the land and inspection of the grounds is being conducted. In Gwa, Arakan State, in connection with the implementation of the project for the construction of the Kyeintali hydroelectric generator on the Kyeintali River, the experts have been in the fields since 26 June 1981 studying the area in order to write a report for the project.

Regarding the Sedawgyi hydroelectric project, temporary offices and houses have been built and efforts are being made to search for a suitable electric alignment for connecting Sedawgyi and Mandalay. For the Kinta hydroelectric project, the engineers from the Electric Power Corporation and those from a German firm are busy drawing up the necessary plans for the project. For the purpose of hiring an advisor for the 320-kV electrical line development in Thazi and Toungoo, tenders were invited for the work and the Energy Plant Corporation was selected and awarded a contract. For the Paunglaung hydroelectric project, the Norway Advisory Engineering Company and officials of the Electric Power Corporation are conferring in earnest for the purpose of drawing up details for the water storage cement tank.

The Electric Power Corporation planned for the construction of small and medium hydroelectric projects. One medium hydroelectric unit will be located in Kachin State, two in Shan State, one in Sagaing Division, and one in Pegu Division for a total of five units. One small hydroelectric unit will be located in Kachin State, one in Chin State, one in Arakan State, one in Shan State, one in Magwe Division, and one in Tenassarim Division making a total of 6 units.

For the successful implementation of two Phaundaw Anyapya hydroelectric projects which began in February 1982, preliminary actions are being taken for the investigation of the environmental and weather conditions. A draft report has already been drawn according to a field investigation for the Tatkyi hydroelectric project in Yatsauk township. For the Tonbo and Nyaung Chedauk substations all the necessary hardware and accessories have been purchased and have reportedly arrived at the site. At the Tonbo substation since 26 October 1980 and at the Nyaung Chedauk substation since 22 December 1980, electric power has been coming through at the 66-kV level from the natural gas-fired electrical generator at Myanaung. The power has been distributed throughout the area.

One transformer at the 33 66 kV-30mV main electric substation built under the Kyeini plan was tested on 28 June 1982 and has been receiving electricity from the Nyaungbingyi substation and the electricity was then distributed further.

For the purpose of supplying electricity to the Anisakhan Thanpwa Plan factory from the Mandalay Tagundaing substation, a 132 kV electric line was connected. To receive the electricity from Anisakhan a 132/13 kV-30mV electric substation was required. Moreover, an agreement with an English company was signed on 27 February 1981. At the moment work on the site and plans for the construction are being made.

Regarding supplying full power to the Yeni Paper Factory from the Toungoo electrical substation, work has begun for the acquisition of equipment for constructing a main 132 kV electrical line. An agreement to construct a 132/33 kV-30mV substation has been signed with an English company. Work has begun on the construction site and plans for the construction of the substation is being draw

According to an agreement signed for the purchase of 168 diesel powered electric generators of various sizes from Czechoslovakia, 97 generators have already arrived in the 3rd batch of the purchase and 84 of them have been sent to the townships which need more electrical power. Seventy-six townships have already received the units and are supplying electrical power. Eight remaining townships are working on the operations fo these diesel powered units. On 25 March 1981 an agreement was signed to purchase from Czecholovakia 94 more diesel powered generators of various sizes. Of the 94 units ordered 49 arrived in Burma on 30 March 1982. Efforts are being made to supplement these units in townships which are short of electrical power.

For the purpose of financing the construction of a power line from Chauk to Rangoon and for the building of substations, officials of the Ministry of Industry No 1 and officials of the World Bank met and discussed a loan of \$80 million dollars. Action is now being taken to draw up the necessary agreement. To implement the project as quickly as possible, the appropriate representatives of the Electric Power Corporation are discussing matters.

At 3 electrical generating stations in Prome, Myanaung and Thaton, 18 natural gas fired generators are being increased 1 megawatt each and construction is under way. In the Thaton electrical power station, an oil fired generator and a boiler to use trapped heat are also being constructed. On 15 May 1982, officials of the Electrical Power Corporation and John Brown Company signed an agreement to purchase the necessary equipment.

The Electrical Power Corporation has been doing its utmost for the development and increase of electric power in Burma to enhance the economic and social betterment of the country.

5118

CSO: 4211/26

BURMA

ROLE OF NGALAİK RESERVOIR IN NATIONAL WATER SYSTEM DESCRIBED

Rangoon PYITHU TATMADAW SAZIN in Burnese 15 Dec 83 pp 33-37

[Text] Burma is a country dependent on agriculture.

Burma acquires her foreign currency mostly from the agriculture sector. The majority of the people of Burma are farmers and they make their living by agriculture. Sixth-three percent of the total income of the government of Burma comes from the agricultural sector. The main consumer goods are rice, flour, corn, peanuts, (sessamum), sunflower seeds, various kinds of lentils, fruits, and vegetables. Raw materials for industry are cotton, jute, sugarcane, rubber, and various feeds for cattle—all of which are agricultural products. That is why the agricultural sector is Burma's most important sector.

The success of the aims and objectives of the agricultural projects, which represent the main economic basis of the country, is equally important. No wonder the government is doing its utmost to promote the advancement of the agricultural sector. Therefore, in order to fulfill the aims and objectives of the projects of the agricultural sector, the government is organizing relevant knowledge on a broad basis to the agricultural workers about new scientific methods of cultivation as well as increased production methods according to local conditions such as weather and availability of water.

In the same way, for the purpose of progress and development of the agriculture projects, the government is planning and implementing ideas for increasing acreage for cultivation and for increasing yield per acre of cultivated land.

Inasmuch as human beings need water for their survival so does agriculture need water for its survival. However, where there is too much water it can also ruin agriculture. Thus, it is necessary to control the supply of water as it is needed and wherever it is needed. In order to control the water supply, the construction of a water reservoir is of utmost necessity. Once you can control the water supply you can supply the commodity to agriculture when and as much as it is needed. Thus intercropping and double cropping can be promoted.

The government of Burma has accordingly planned to construct water reservoirs in order to do just that—to supply and control the water supply.

Among the construction of water reservoirs is the new Ngalaik Reservoir Plan. The project consists of construction of a reservoir, water locks, water canals, water disposal lines and roadways between fields. A proper supply of water will increase the cultivation of rice and increase production of sugarcane--the raw material needed to supply both the sugar factory that is being built as well as disposal pipe, and 371 cubic feet per second of water disposal power.

The water lock will be 210 feet in length and 9.84 feet high. Water disposal power will be 38,530 cubic feet per second, and the water supply canals will be fed by one main canal 11.23 miles long. There will be eight branch canals totalling 44.5 miles, nine sub-canals totalling 103.62 miles.

When the Ngalaik Reservoir Plan is completed 9800 acres of sugarcane and 10,400 acres of rice cultivation, a total of 20,200 acres, can be supplied with water. If the area is watered by nature once and then once more by the reservoir, a total of 30,600 acres can be cultivated well.

It is estimated that the total capital expenditures for the Ngalaik Reservoir Plan will be 1001.81 million kyats plus foreign exchange of 717.10 million kyats--a grand total of 1718.91 million kyats.

There is one special feature in the Ngalaik Reservoir Plan. In order to protect water in the reservoir from seepage, a 2-foot water proof concrete wall 1376 feet in length was constructed along the sub-area of the sloping surface 95 feet below the surface of the Ngalaik (chaung).

For the purpose of this construction engineers from the Department of Irrigation and engineers of the Teiseki Drilling Co Ltd of Japan jointly constructed the wall beginning 17 January 1982 and they successfully completed the work on 10 May 1982.

This kind of construction was the first of its kind to be made in Burma and may be termed as a special feature of the plan.

The main objective of this Ngalaik Reservoir Plan is to increase white sugar production from 18,000 tons a year to 51,000 tons per year including 10,000 tons of clear sugar, and to increase 10,000 tons of rice cultivation and 11,000 tons of raw sugar.

The Nanti sugar factory, Zeyyawadi sugar factory, Bilin sugar factory, and Pyinmana sugar factory in Burma need 500,000 tons of raw sugarcane a year to keep running. At present sugarcane farmers cannot meet this demand.

In the third 4-year economic plan, sugarcane cultivation fell short of the yearly estimated quota. However, because of the cultivation of good quality sugarcane and the employment of improved production methods the cultivation of sugarcane was not too far behind the quota.

The Pyinmana sugar factory plan and the Zeyyawadi sugar factory plan include the construction of two more sugar factories which can crush 1,500 tons of

sugarcane a day. The supply of raw sugarcane will then be greater than it is now.

In fact, when the Ngalaik Reservoir Plan is completed the demand for the supply of raw sugarcane will be fulfilled to a great extent.

While the insurgency was rampant in Pyinmana Township, the insurgents were taking refuge in the area. Not only did they use the Ngalaik (chaung) for their water supply, they also treated the people poorly

However, Pyinmana Township is now free of insurgents and the area is now clean and secure. When the Ngalaik Reservoir Plan is completed the existing sugar factory. The work is being conducted by the Consumer Project Corporation of the Ministry of Industry No 1. The project will be financed by a loan from the Asian Development Bank.

The Ngalaik Reservoir Plan is being implemented by the joint efforts of the Ministry of Industry No 1, the Consumer Project Corporation, the Ministry for Agriculture and Forests, and the Directorate of Irrigation. Actual construction of the project is being supervised by the Director of Irrigation under the Ministry for Agriculture and Forests.

The Ngalaik Reservoir Plan gets its name from the Ngalaik (chaung) through which the Ngalaik Reservoir is being constructed. The location is at a place across the Ngalaik (chaung) near Kyweshin village, 6 miles directly northwest of Pyinmana, Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division. The water locks are about 5 miles from Pyinmana on the Ngalaik (chaung) where the feed canals are constructed.

The project was implemented on 1 April 1979 and it is estimated that the reservoir construction will be completed by 31 March 1985.

The reservoir is made out of cement and when the project is completed it will have a water flow area of 122 square miles, it will be 3980 feet in length, 95 feet in height, 20 feet in width, 82 feet in depth when filled with water, 75,000 acre feet of water when full, 3580 acre feet of surface when full, 1413 cubic feet per second excess water flow, an 82 feet high control tower, 1280 feet of water from the Ngalaik (chaung) will benefit 20,200 acres of sugarcane and rice as well as welfare of the people.

5118

CSO: 4211/26

BRIEFS

PROJECTED ENERGY SUPPLY--Mining and Energy Minister Subroto says that by the end of the fourth 5-year development plan, the Department of Mining and Energy should be able to supply commercial energy for the development's demands, which will total 292,186,000 barrels--equal to all made up of natural gas, coal, hydropower, and geothermal. The total will undergo an increase of 39 percent if compared with the third 5-year development plan, which was recorded at 210,062,000 barrels equal to oil. Minister Subroto made these remarks in Jakarta on 5 July after he installed the new director general of natural gas and oil, Sudarno Martosewoyo. According to Minister Subroto, the increase of commercial energy consumption is reflecting the population and economic growth rate to take place in the coming 5-year development plans. [Excerpt] [BK071510 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 5 Jul 84]

AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN--Indonesia's ambassador to the Holy See, Hardiman Sastropuspito, has presented his credentials to Pope John Paul II at Vatican Palace. During the ceremony, there was only an exchange of written speeches taking place. [Excerpt] [BK151452 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Jul 84]

EAST TIMOR INTEGRATION ANNIVERSARY--The East Timor governor, Mario Viegas Carascalao, said that the people of East Timor have made encouraging achievements in the development of the province. Therefore, development should be continued and intensified. He said the people of East Timor had a bitter experience under 500 years of colonialism because they constantly lived in poverty, ignorance, and backwardness. This was stated by Mario Carascalao at the Dili municipal stadium when he presided over a ceremony marking the 8th anniversary of East Timor integration into Indonesia. The function was attended by civil servants, members of the armed forces, members of the Dharma Wanita women's organization, boy scouts, members of the Indonesian National Youth Committee, students, civic leaders, and heads of subdistricts and villages. He said that the challenge and demand ahead is the development of East Timor Province, because poverty left by the colonialists is quite serious. The commemoration ceremony on integration was held simultaneously in 13 districts presided over by the respective district chiefs who read the written message of the East Timor governor. [Text] [BK171623 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 17 Jul 84]

GOVERNMENT NOT AGAINST FOREIGN WORKERS--Manpower Minister Sudomo has again stressed that the government is not against the hiring of foreign manpower, because from several points of view, we still need them. They, however, should abide by already established regulations and help train in stages the Indonesian workers, so that eventually they will be prepared to take the place of their foreign counterparts in the framework of implementing the Indonesianization and technological transfer program, Sudomo added. Minister Sudomo made this remark today when he officially opened the Mas Gobel Training Institute. [Excerpt] [BK191447 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Jul 84]

CSO: 4213/252

SIHANOUK DISCUSSES FEELINGS FOR POL POT, KIM ILSONG

Melbourne THE AGE in English 29 Jun 84 p 11

[Article by Mark Baker: "Sihanouk, the Actor Caught at Centre Stage"]

[Text]

PRINCE Norodom Sihanouk is talking about the people he holds responsible for the deaths of five of his children and 14 grandchildren; the same people who are now his political and military partners. His voice is high-pitched and excited. He sits on the edge of his chair, gesticulating wildly.

"You know, they killed them all, the Pol Pot faction, the Khmer Rouge. I have every reason to hate the Khmer Rouge. But as a patriot I cannot accept the Vietnamese fait accompli. I have to fight to get back Cambodia, my home land, the national independence.

His speech subsides into melancholy before he erupts into a manic, nervous cackle.

In less than four years to the end of 1978, the ultra-Leftist Khmer Rouge Government headed by Pol Pot was responsible for the deaths of at least one million and possibly two million Cambodians, including most of the Royal Family. Today, five years after the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, the Khmer Rouge is the main guerilla force within the coalition headed by Prince Sihanouk that is fighting the Vietnamese occupation. The paradox is as hard to comprehend as the voluble prince.

Norodom Sihanouk: former king, prime minister, jazz band leader, film director and now president in exile. He arrives tripping gently down the red-carpeted staircase, a shaggy white poodle at his heels. He wears a well-cut suit, fashionable as ever. He's putting on weight and, at 62, the hair is greyer and thinner, but he's still a handsome figure.

The vast sitting room is decorated with a giant oil painting of the temples at Angkor and with portraits of the prince and his wife, Princess Monique. The preparations for the audience are complete. Beside each chair a table with bowls of nuts and boiled sweets and the host's specialities: champagne and caviar — but Chinese for these austere times.

It is a long way from the ceremony and gaiety of the court in Phnom Penh; the lavish parties and parades when Sihanouk the prince-politician-playboy would entertain foreign guests with a song, a tune or a diatribe.

He was crowned King of Cambodia at 19. For a decade he campaigned for independence from the French. In the mid-50s he abdicated in favor of his father to enable him to fight for and win election as a populist head of government. For years he played a delicate diplomatic balancing act to shield his country from the Vietnam war. In 1970 he was ousted in a coup only to join up with those who overthrew him as a nominal head of State. Later, from exile, he watched his once idyllic agrarian kingdom progressively devastated by United States bombing, a genocidal Maoist clique and an invasion by Vietnam.

Now he is back at centre stage, the perpetual actor, attention-seeker and manipulator. He divides his time between sanctuaries in Peking, Pyongyang and Paris, and an endless procession of foreign visits to press the case of his coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

"I told ASEAN: 'I am getting old, I cannot travel all the time. I feel tired.' I am not lazy, but being old, it is not pleasant to travel all the time." He laughs, then is mock-solemn again. "Thailand told me 'You are a talented man, a talented diplomat. You must serve your coalition Government, you must improve the understanding vis-a-vis the coalition Government. And you, only Prince Sihanouk, can succeed'."

Then with barely disguised pleasure, he rattles off his travel plans: France and Egypt in July; Norway and Denmark in August; Austria, the United States and the United Nations in September; back to Peking for the 35th anniversary of the People's Republic in October; France again and a tour of North Africa in December.

In January — before a visit to Australia — he will perform one of the bizarre rituals of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea. He will fly by Chinese aircraft from Peking to Bangkok and then travel by car under guard of the Royal Thai Army to the Kampuchean border. At a village clearing a few kilometres across the border, the President will receive the emissaries of a handful of countries that formally recognise his Government, accept new credentials (this time, Sudan and Senegal) and have a Cabinet meeting with his coalition partners.

The ritual in the "liberated zones" — a narrow strip of territory along the Thai border held by the guerrilla forces of the three coalition groups — is essential to the claims of legitimacy of the Government; as essential as the arguments at the United Nations each year and the diplomatic globe-trotting of Norodom Sihanouk.

It is a motley and improbable alliance that celebrated its second anniversary last week — the 30,000-strong force of the communist Khmer Rouge led by Khieu Samphan, but whose troops are still commanded by the notorious Pol Pot, and the non-communist groups of Son Sann (12,000 troops) and Sihanouk (6000).

Equipped with light artillery and other basic weapons for hit-and-run fighting — supplied mostly by China, Malaysia and Singapore — the loosely united coalition groups face between 150,000 and 170,000 Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea that are fully armed and provisioned by the Soviet Union. Yet it is a marriage of convenience which appears to be growing stronger through necessity. The Khmer Rouge (and Peking) need the respectability and diplomatic skills of Sihanouk, while the Khmer Rouge are the military backbone of the coalition and, most importantly, can continue to claim Kampuchea's seat at the United Nations as a government overthrown by a foreign invader.

But the catch is: The brutal excesses of the Khmer Rouge in power are the reason most countries, Australia included, refuse to back the coalition.

"There are governments who tell me: 'If you disassociate yourself from Pol Pot, from the Khmer Rouge, you would be supported by the whole international community.' But, you know, we lose, we lose the legal framework of Democratic Kampuchea," says Prince Sihanouk.

"If I and Son Sann, two honorable men and people, we formed a government outside Democratic Kampuchea, so the Russians, the Vietnamese and their allies at the UN can stop us, prevent us being accepted. If we abandon Democratic Kampuchea, it would lose its seat at the UN. That would be a door open for the recognition of Heng Samrin (the Vietnamese-backed leader of Kampuchea), that is to say,

the Vietnamese fait accompli and Cambodia would remain forever a colony of Vietnam."

Prince Sihanouk has had to refine the arts of compromise he once skillfully used to preserve Kampuchea's fragile neutrality. The one-time anti-communist monarch now counts North Korea's Kim Il-Sung as his "best friend" and the Chinese as his leading benefactors.

The West's conviction that North Korean agents planted the bombs that wiped out half the South Korean Government in Burma last year has not swayed a great friendship. "As far as the Rangoon affair, or accident, was concerned, I had a discussion with Kim Il-Sung. He swore that he was not aware of the coup, of the preparation of the coup... I looked at Kim Il-Sung when he spoke. I saw that he was sincere."

Kim Il-Sung has provided Prince Sihanouk with a palatial residence in Pyongyang and another firm backer in the communist camp. In Peking, the Prince has been granted a vast compound in the old diplomatic quarter which is more lavish than the accommodation of any other foreign representative in China. He still throws the occasional party for diplomats and journalists where he insists on repeatedly interrupting the dancing to croon French love songs and Cambodian ballads in a sweet tenor while his nephew plays the electronic organ.

Such antics, and his generally flamboyant and emotional style, have led many to dismiss him as insincere or ineffectual. But whether it is patriotism or egoism that has dissuaded him from a life of comfortable exile in France, his campaigning has kept alive the hope of an independent Kampuchea.

While there are signs that the coalition forces are becoming more unified and making modest gains, Prince Sihanouk alternates between optimism and pessimism. "Officially, I have to be the spokesman for the coalition Government. So, officially, as President of Democratic Kampuchea, I have to say that Vietnam will be defeated and we will win. But, personally, I am less optimistic. I know that we cannot defeat 100 per cent the Vietnamese. But one thing is sure: the Vietnamese will not be able to wipe out our armed resistance."

"One day the Vietnamese will have to accept that they have to solve the problem in conformity with the UN resolution on Kampuchea, if not by the letter then at least in spirit. That is, Kampuchea must be free and free from all foreign occupation."

The past actions of the Khmer Rouge remain a personal suffering and a political conundrum. "Everywhere I go, the Press, they like to tease me. They know me very well. I have close relations with the Press, but they dislike Pol Pot. They don't attack me, but they don't want me to be with the Khmer Rouge."

He says the Press and Governments that criticise him should remember the background of the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh and

realise that there have been changes within the Khmer Rouge.

"There was a split in 1977-78 inside the Communist Party of Kampuchea, but they were all killers, all Khmer Rouge. To believe that the Heng Samrin regime is liberal, that the Pol Pot regime is a killer, is unrealistic. Nobody must forget that Heng Samrin himself has been and remains a Khmer Rouge, but they (the Vietnamese and the Soviets) want a Khmer Rouge regime without Peking, that all.

"And now Khieu Samphan and the Khmer Rouge, they have improved their behavior. Now they are very correct vis-a-vis the people. The Khmer Rouge on my side, on the side of Democratic Kampuchea, allow the people of Cambodia in the liberated zone to use all currencies, to have free markets, to have trade, to have temples, pagodas, &c."

He accepts the West's repulsion over the past excesses of the Khmer Rouge, but says the choice, for him, is between an honorable failure and the hope of success.

"An honorable individual is not helpful for the homeland. But even a criticised Head of State may be helpful. I am helpful now, but I am criticised in some circles. The Vietnamese fear me because I am a threat to their future in Cambodia.

"But once I choose honorability 100 per cent, dignity, no more the Khmer Rouge, dignified Sihanouk, I get the sympathy of the international community, but Vietnam will say, 'He is zero. You can like him, congratulate him, but he is no more a threat.' I prefer to be criticised and be a threat to the Vietnamese who are colonising my country.

"You know we have no choice, like Hamlet, 'To be or not to be.' For us it is to have Cambodia or to lose Cambodia. It is a tragedy for us." Prince Norodom Sihanouk laughs again, sadly, and shows us out.

SPK REPORTS ON FILIPOV, CHAN SI DINNER SPEECHES

BK251445 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1156 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, 25 Jul (SPK)--Growing economic and techno-scientific cooperation between Bulgaria and Kampuchea was highlighted at a dinner given by Bulgarian Premier Grisha Filipov in Sofia Monday evening.

Speaking at the function, which was held in honour of a high-ranking Kampuchean [delegation led] by Premier Chan Si, G. Filipov emphasised the new and important trends emerging in the economic and techno-scientific cooperation. He stressed the enormous contributions made by the party and state leaders of the two countries, Todor Zhivkov and Heng Samrin, to the establishment and consolidation of friendly contacts.

Grisha Filipov, also Politburo member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, voiced his conviction that despite the attempts of the imperialist and reactionary forces in Southeast Asia, the Kampuchean people will succeed in building a new life with the fraternal support of the socialist countries.

In his analysis of the international situation, Grisha Filipov underlined that the policies currently pursued by the U.S. Administration, imperialism and other forces of reaction, are aimed at disrupting the existing military and strategic balance and at achieving military superiority over socialism, at imposing their will from a position of strength. He called the proposals of the socialist countries the right way to the strengthening of world peace and security.

Speaking of the Bulgarian foreign policy, Grisha Filipov stressed the efforts towards the realisation of the idea of President Todor Zhivkov for turning the Balkans into a nuclear free zone.

For his part Premier Chan Si highly valued the promotion of bilateral relations which are constantly strengthened and developed at the service of the common cause of socialism and world peace. Bulgaria's comprehensive assistance is essential for the reconstruction and development in all spheres in Kampuchea, he said. Thanks to the support of the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and the other socialist countries, forces worldwide, the Kampuchean

revolution is advancing with steady steps. These successes enrage the U.S. imperialists, the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists, and Thailand, he said.

Chan Si, also Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, highlighted Kampuchea's foreign policy to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, establish good neighbourly relations and friendship with all countries, and seek solutions aimed at regional detente. The third partial withdrawal of the Vietnamese army volunteers from Kampuchea will be followed by another withdrawal. This is an indication of the good will of Vietnam and Kampuchea and shows the friendship and all-round cooperation between Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos, he said.

The Kampuchean premier backed the initiative of President Todor Zhivkov for turning the Balkans into a nuclear free zone, and the initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty member countries aimed at saving mankind from a nuclear holocaust.

CSO: 4200/922

SPK INTERVIEWS HEAD OF FRENCH DELEGATION

BK260321 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1125 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, 25 Jul (SPK)--A French M.P. said he had seen "fundamental changes" and national rehabilitation in "all fields" in Kampuchea.

Robert Montdargent, vice president of the External Relations Commission of the French National Assembly and head of a delegation of the Study Group on Kampuchean Problems now on a visit here, said in an interview with SPK Monday: "It is evident that fundamental changes have taken place since my first visit to Kampuchea. I remember that I came here in December 1979, in conditions particularly difficult for the Kampuchean people, because it was only a few months before that the Pol Pot regime had finally been overthrown.

"I can make comparison with that period, one can do that, of course, and the word frequently used is revival. Myself, I'll speak of rehabilitation, which can be noted in all fields. In the streets of Phnom Penh and in Kompong Som, which we visited yesterday, we met people who perfectly realized that the regime of President Heng Samrin had put an end to famine, which famine I witnessed during my first trip, when I called on orphanages where one saw skeleton-like children in a stage unimaginable to people from Western Europe.

"Foreign Minister told us a few days ago that the food problem no longer existed in Kampuchea. Perhaps I'll go further than that. Looking at the kinds of clothes Kampucheans wear today, at the number of bicycles and motorbikes, and even a few cars now and then, one can see that Kampuchea has emerged from the horror they experienced for more than 3 years. So, it's with great satisfaction that the French delegation sees this absolutely formidable rehabilitation, knowing how the situation was in 1979.

"It is clear that one cannot go everywhere during such a brief visit. But it's true that as far as food and economic construction are concerned, one can see very clearly the effect of foreign aid. In this regard I want to underline the assistance of France, the European Economic Community, the specialized organizations of the United Nations, as well as the assistance of the socialist countries. An example can be found in electricity. I have seen two electric plants being built with the assistance of the socialist countries.

"Of course there are still difficulties to overcome. The point is to effect and real take-off [as received] Anyway, judging from what we can see, Kampuchea has gone some way."

Robert Montdargent proceeded to speak about the good will of the Indochinese people. He said: "Before our departure for Kampuchea, we studied in detail the situation in the three Indochinese countries, and we were able to see the good will of these countries in seeking a peaceful solution for the region."

"It's evident that these three countries want to live in peace, precisely for the economic take-off I've just mentioned, and one must realize the importance of their efforts to achieve peace in this region. In effect, a communique was signed by the foreign ministers of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea on 3 July. I particularly note a paragraph which interests me in this document, the one which seems to me to be an overture, and which says that a conference may be held on the basis of the various proposals of the parties interested in settlement for the region. And that means proposals of both the ASEAN and Indochinese countries. What the fate of those proposals will be I can't tell, but what is clear to me is this desire for peace. And you know that France is very much interested in a regional settlement, a settlement between the ASEAN and the Indochinese countries, without intervention of other powers."

On cooperation possibilities, Robert Montdargent said: "There exists a basis for cooperation between France and Kampuchea. As far as we're concerned, we hope that it will develop. There are many reasons for its development. Kampuchea needs this international aid, although, with its own effort, it has undertaken an absolutely noticeable action for national rehabilitation. As your foreign minister has told us, Kampuchea needs this international aid and cooperation. As for us, we've come with this problem in mind--to help develop the cooperation between our two countries."

"Moreover, by multiplying actions of aid and cooperation it's possible to eventually create a political confidence, which will enable us to go further. You know that there's no Kampuchean diplomatic representation in Paris and there's no French representation in Kampuchea. Consequently, in such a situation, as you know and we also know, I insist that the French Government not recognize the coalition government. There's already a real basis--not adequate, of course, but real all the same--for the development of this cooperation. As for the means to multiply the forms of cooperation, we've said just now that this international aid will be channeled mostly through the specialised organizations of the United Nations and European bodies. Also, on a bilateral basis, this aid will come through non-government organizations, whose work here I wish to commend. There are many non-government organizations established in Phnom Penh. These, in conditions which are not always good, and sometimes without proper means, have paved the way for a cooperation which seems justifiable for this development. Of course, I think of the International Red Cross, and I also welcome the arrival of the organization "June 21," which is on an exploratory mission, but which, I hope, may settle permanently in Kampuchea. I also think of

linguistic and cultural cooperation. I believe some effort can be made in this regard. We have made a concrete proposal to the Foreign Ministry: perhaps one can set up a French cultural center in Kampuchea. We've made the same suggestion to the French Government. I also think of medical cooperation. We've had the pleasure of being received in Phnom Penh and of being accompanied throughout the visit by the dean of the college of medicine and pharmacy, who knows very well the French language and the French medical science, and who wishes to see the teaching of French here. Let's make use of this basis and let's develop it in medicine and pharmacy as well.

"It's clear to me that our friends in Kampuchea, in this domain want to bring to use their natural resources to develop a pharmaceutical industry. Why not? But there are other fields which have not been explored yet--communications and rubber production, for instance. And you know that the French are expert in these fields, too. When one lists these questions, it becomes very clear that there are great prospects for not only cultural cooperation, but also technological cooperation. Of course, there exists a clear division line between the legislative and the executive in France, but in our reports on our mission, we will make suggestions to the government about developing cooperation in the fields I've just mentioned. I believe that in cooperation, one does not just gibe but should arrive at a common decision, and I believe that we can talk about these various domains."

In conclusion Robert Montdargent said: "The French parliamentary delegation, which represents all the parties in the National Assembly, is unanimous on developing this cooperation. In my capacity as leader of the group, I am happy with the chance of coming here at the head of a delegation which is willing to cooperate with Kampuchea."

CSO: 4200/922

VODK ACCUSES VIETNAM OF POLICY OF LYING

BK090436 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
7 Jun 84

[Station commentary: "Nguyen Co Thach's Lying and Cheating Have Been Shamefully Denounced and Rejected"]

[Text] Several days ago, during his interview with Australian television, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach stated that the ASEAN countries were ready to hold talks with Vietnam either in Australia or India. When this statement was broadcast all countries concerned immediately denounced and rejected it as lying and cheating.

On 4 June, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila stated: The ASEAN countries are not ready to hold any talks with Vietnam. Nguyen Co Thach's statement is only an exaggeration. The Thai foreign minister stressed that ASEAN countries will not change their stand on the Kampuchean problem, that is they will continue to call on the Vietnamese to withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea and let the Kampuchean people determine their own destiny in compliance with UN General Assembly resolutions. On 4 June, Australian Foreign Minister Hayden stated that Nguyen Co Thach's statement was a unilateral declaration. He did not realize that ASEAN countries were ready to hold such negotiations. Therefore, Nguyen Co Thach's statement is only an exaggeration. The psychological propaganda made by the Hanoi Vietnamese aimed at cheating and misleading world opinion has once again been shamefully denounced and exposed.

The Hanoi Vietnamese are keen to lie and cheat without shame. When they are denounced and exposed, the Vietnamese seek other ways to lie. They make every effort to lie to everyone. Their theory is that many lies may become the truth. Vietnamese diplomacy has been completely based on the theory of lying. Therefore, the Hanoi Vietnamese have lied many times. They have lied to everyone about the Kampuchean problem.

We can recall the history of this lying policy in the past several years. In September 1978, while visiting Bangkok, Pham Van Dong promised that the Vietnamese would not have any reason to attack any neighboring country. But in reality, at the end of 1978 the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy sent their troops to openly attack and occupy Kampuchea. At the beginning of May 1980,

Nguyen Co Thach went to Bangkok and pledged that the Vietnamese would not wage any aggression against Thailand. On 23 June 1980, the Vietnamese sent their troops to blatantly attack Thailand. Concerning troop withdrawal, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have lied that they had withdrawn their troops from Kampuchea by inviting newsmen to attend the troop withdrawal ceremony. But in reality, the Vietnamese did not withdraw one single soldier from Kampuchea. On the contrary, they have sent more troops and weapons to Kampuchea, intensifying their war of aggression in Kampuchea and their barbarous massacre of the Kampuchean people. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have lied that they did not intend to attack refugee camps. But they attacked Kampuchean refugee camps at Nong Chan and Ampil, savagely massacring innocent Kampuchean refugees. All of these recent events are related to the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy's lying and cheating. They have clearly shown the real nature of the Vietnamese policy of lying. There is no need to recall many other Vietnamese lies.

Over the past 5 years, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have repeatedly lied to everyone. The world has clearly realized their true nature. The international community has noted that Vietnamese diplomacy has been based on lying and cheating. Their statements and deeds are different. Therefore, at present nobody believes the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy. Nobody is interested in the statements, declarations, and promises made by the Hanoi Vietnamese. On the contrary, the Hanoi Vietnamese's lying and cheating have been shamefully denounced and rejected.

Concerning the Kampuchean problem, although the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have lied, cheated, and played tricks to legitimize their aggression, no one believes them. The international community has firmly stood on the UN resolutions which have called on the Vietnamese to completely withdraw their aggressor troops from Kampuchea and let the Kampuchean people determine their own destiny without any outside interference. The Kampuchean people have known the Vietnamese very well. They have known them for many centuries. The Kampuchean people have realized the mentality, hypocrisy, ambition, territorial expansion, and the Indochina federation strategy of the Vietnamese.

Therefore, the Kampuchean people do not let the Vietnamese fool them as they wish. As long as the Vietnamese do not withdraw their troops from Kampuchea, the Kampuchean people will continue to unite to more vigorously fight the Vietnamese enemy aggressors until they are forced to withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions and respect the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination with no outside interference.

CSO: 4212/57

VODK REPORTS ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE

BK121104 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
11 Jul 84

[Text] The foreign ministers of the six ASEAN nations--Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Brunei--held their 17th annual meeting on 9 July 1984 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Following their 2-day meeting, the ASEAN foreign ministers issued a joint communique which said, among other things: For the past more than 5 years, the ASEAN countries and the world community have kept calling on Vietnam to end its military occupation of Kampuchea and join in settling the Kampuchean problem through political means.

Such a settlement of the Kampuchean problem requires, first of all, respect for the Kampuchean people's inalienable right to self-determination and the restoration of Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. To bring about such a settlement, first of all, Vietnam must withdraw all of its troops from Kampuchea under international supervision. Only by solving the Kampuchean problem with such broad political means can obstacles to peace and stability in Southeast Asia be eradicated.

The ASEAN foreign ministers communique also said: Vietnam's military effort is of no use. The attempt to resolve the Kampuchean problem through the use of military force will only increase tension and destroy peace and stability in this region.

The communique called on Vietnam to stop intensifying its military campaign on the Kampuchean-Thai border. It expressed concern over the settlement of over 500,000 Vietnamese nationals in Kampuchea's fertile regions. It rejected Vietnam's proposal for ASEAN to hold dialogue with the group of Indochinese countries made by Vietnam during the recent Vientiane conference, saying this is Hanoi's propaganda.

The communique also rejected Vietnam's recent announcement on a partial troop withdrawal, saying this is an attempt to fool the world. This partial troop withdrawal announcement concerns only an annual transfer of troops.

CSO: 4212/57

KHIEU SAMPHAN THANKS JAPAN'S ABE FOR GREETINGS

BK040725 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
3 Jul 84

[26 June message of thanks from Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, to Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe]

[Text] To His Excellency Shintaro Abe, foreign minister of Japan, Tokyo:

Your Excellency, On the 2d anniversary of the historic establishment of the CGDK, you sent a warm congratulatory message to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, in which you stressed your great happiness to note that the CGDK, under the clear-sighted leadership of the Samdech president of Democratic Kampuchea, has received increasing support from the world community. On the same occasion, you also solemnly reaffirmed the Japanese Government's desire to do its utmost to restore a just and durable peace in Kampuchea.

I would like to express proud gratitude to you for the evidence of the renewed and clear support and the noble solidarity of the Japanese Government with our Kampuchean people, who are suffering from the war of aggression and race extermination of the SRV. This is great encouragement for our Kampuchean people, who live peace and independence in their just struggle to restore Kampuchea's peace, independence, neutrality, and nonaligned status.

Our Kampuchean people will always be grateful to the Japanese people. It is with these sentiments that I would like to ask you to accept my high and sincere consideration.

Democratic Kampuchea, 26 June 1984

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs.

CSO: 4212/57

LEADERS GREET NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

BK190833 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] On the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution's victory, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, sent a greetings message to Comrade Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The message says:

We would like to highly evaluate the splendid victory of Nicaragua's national liberation from the U.S. imperialists' rule and the Somoza fascist regime, as well as other victories in the defense of national independence and genuine democracy scored by the heroic Nicaraguan people under the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction. Concerning the threat of the Yankee imperialists' undeclared war against Nicaragua, we would like to express once more to you that the entire Kampuchean people would like to display their solidarity with the fraternal Nicaraguan people, who have struggled for a just revolutionary cause, freedom, and socialism against the aggression of the Somoza bandits from Honduras and Costa Rica.

May the cordial friendship and solidarity between our two peoples be strengthened and developed steadily based on the principle of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. May beloved Comrade Chairman enjoy good health and may you score further successes in your noble duty.

On the same occasion, Comrade Hun Sen, PRK foreign minister, sent a message to Comrade Miguel d'Escoto, foreign minister of the Republic of Nicaragua. The message stresses:

We would like to express our deep gratitude to the Government of National Reconstruction and the heroic fraternal Nicaraguan people, who have actively supported the just cause of our people's revolution in all international arenas. We categorically condemn the provocations and the threat of the undeclared war of the Yankee imperialists and their lackeys against the Republic of Nicaragua. We call on them to cease all these hostile activities immediately. We would like to express once more the Kampuchean people's ties of solidarity with the just revolutionary cause and the national construction of Nicaragua. We would like to support completely the appeal of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. We are confident that the heroic Nicaraguan people will be victorious over their enemies.

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITY

Chemical Attack in Kratie

BK030754 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 2 Jul 84

[Text] On 4 and 8 June, two Vietnamese aircraft including a jet fighter sprayed yellow toxic chemicals over our people's villages in (Kou Loat), Pongror, and Bos Leav communes, Kratie District, Kratie Province, killing many people--young and old, men and women--and a lot of cattle. Many other people and cattle were affected by the toxic chemicals.

At present, because they are militarily defeated, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors are increasing their fascist use of toxic chemical weapons to break the will to struggle of our people and to swallow our territory as they did with Kampuchea Kraom [southern part of present day Vietnam which belonged to Cambodia]. The use of toxic chemicals by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors has ignited our people's national anger. Our brothers and sisters have closely united and cooperated with the national army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea in the struggle to drive the Vietnamese enemy aggressors out from our beloved fatherland.

Vietnamese Reportedly Poison Reservoirs

BK080340 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Excerpt] On 23 June, in Moung District, Battambang Province, the Vietnamese enemy put poison in reservoirs used daily by our people, killing two of them; four others are seriously affected. Many more are being affected by this.

Vietnamese Attack in Pailin Foiled

BK080334 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
7 Jul 84

[Text] Between 26 and 27 June, the Vietnamese enemy, with 1,000 soldiers, launched a 3-pronged attack against us. The first prong set out from Boeng Ampil to Chanka Khmao, the second moved toward Pradak, and the third moved from Ta Ngen-Kamping Puoy to Boeng Khtum to sweep up our forces from that area. As soon as the Vietnamese were moving, we intercepted them and forced them to flee back. We killed 40 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 62 others for a total of 102 casualties. We destroyed an assortment of weapons and a quantity of materiel. We remain in complete control of the area.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas, and people on the Pailin battlefield!

Three SRV Officers Killed

BK130542 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Jul 84

[Excerpt] During the attack against Rovieng District Town, Preah Vihear battlefield, on 3 July, a 3-star Vietnamese commanding officer [banhchea ka], a 2-star commanding officer, and a 1-star commanding officer were killed. We destroyed eight underground cisterns of fuel, a rice stock, two cars, six bicycles, and a quantity of military materiel.

SRV Position Hit in Pailin

BK140417 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 13 Jul 84

[Text] In the early morning hours of 9 July, our national army on Pailin battlefield launched a commando raid against the Vietnamese enemy's 813th Regiment at (Phum Kaop Chen) and two other positions of its 3d battalion at Phum Ta Hen and Don Peou, which is the residence of the commander of the 309th division.

Our national army charged into these positions at 0400. After fighting for 20 minutes, we seized control of these positions. As a result, we killed 97 Vietnamese soldiers including a regimental commander, 2 battalion commanders, and 3 company commanders; wounded 163 others; destroyed a 155-mm gun, 70 AK's, 18 B-41's, 8 B-40's, 5 RPD's, 3 M-79's, 2 12.7-mm machineguns, 2 80-mm mortars, 3 60-mm mortars, a pistol, a C-25 radio set, 5 telephone sets, an ammunition dump containing 3,000 rounds of 155-mm ammunition, 4 other ammunition dumps, a 15-meter-long warehouse storing clothes, shoes, and belts, 50 large military installations, 70 medium-size and small-size military installations, 500 trenches, a 15-meter bridge at

Phum Don Peou, and 100 sacks of rice; and seized 21 AK's, an 82-mm mortar, 3 RPD's, a pistol, an M-72, 2 B-41's, 18,000 rounds of AK ammunition, 40 B-40 rockets, 25 B-41 rockets, 1,500 rounds of CETME ammunition, 18 hand grenades, 23 rucksacks, 10 hammocks, 45 belts, 18 canteens, a map, a quantity of documents and letters, and a quantity of war materiel.

While we were controlling these positions, on the same day the Vietnamese soldiers, assisted by tanks, attempted to retrieve the corpses of their colleagues but they ran into our ambush. We set a tank ablaze, killed six Vietnamese soldiers, and wounded six others. The survivors turned back in panic.

It is to be noted that the Vietnamese enemy's regimental position at (Kaop Chen) which is 1 km long and 1/2 km wide was completely destroyed. The explosions at the ammunition dumps lasted from 0400 until noon.

CSO: 4212/57

BRIEFS

MAT LY MESSAGE TO MPR LEADERS--Comrade Mat Ly, chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, sent a message of congratulations to his Mongolian counterpart on the occasion of the 63d anniversary of Mongolia's liberation. The message stressed: We sincerely admire the socialist achievements scored by the Mongolian workers and people under the leadership of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and regard these successes as our own. We wish to assure you that the bonds of solidarity and fraternal friendship between our Kampuchean and Mongolian trade union organizations, workers, and peoples will further develop and strengthen. On the same occasion, Comrade Sim Ka, chairman of the Kampuchea-Mongolia Friendship Association, also sent a message of congratulations to the comrade chairman of the Mongolia-Kampuchea Friendship Association. The message said: I regard the successes won by the Mongolian people in their revolutionary struggle and socialist construction also as successes of the Kampuchean people, for the July revolution has actively contributed to the assistance and support for the revolution of our country and the revolution of all countries in the world. I wish you, all members of the Mongolia-Kampuchea Friendship Association, and the Mongolian people the best of health and new successes in building socialism in your country and in consolidating the bonds of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries. [Text] [BK171255 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Jul 84]

ENVOY TO CSSR--Phnom Penh, 12 Jul (SPK)--On 27 June, Chim Nguon, second PRK ambassador to the CSSR, presented his credentials to Gustav Husak, chairman of the CSSR Council of State. On that occasion, Chairman Gustav Husak highly praised the achievements scored by the Kampuchean people during the past 5 years. He reiterated the unchanging support of the CSSR for the Kampuchean people's just struggle and peace initiatives of the three Indochinese countries as well as the efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the CSSR and Kampuchea. [Text] [BK120854 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0417 GMT 12 Jul 84]

CUBAN CC GREETINGS TO PRK--Phnom Penh, 14 Jul (SPK)--The Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea has received greetings on the party's 33rd anniversary from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. The message recalls the history of the KPRP and its successes in all fields in the struggle of peace, social development and socialism, and notes that the KPRP has constantly enhanced its militant solidarity with the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, and foiled all enemies' perfidious moves. The Communist Party of Cuba reiterates full support for the KPRP's just cause, and voices conviction that the militant solidarity between the two parties will develop and strengthen constantly, the message says. [Text] [BK141216 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1103 GMT 14 Jul 84]

CSO: 4200/922

COLUMNIST: UNITED STATES, PRC, THAI COLLUDE IN LAND GRAB

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 22 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by S. Thipthiangchanh: "They Know It's Lao Territory, But Still Invade"]

[Text] Until now, reactionary troops under Thai influence still stubbornly continue to illegally occupy three villages in Mouang Thon Canton, Pak Lay District, Sayabouri Province. Although the Lao side has protested to them to withdraw their troops, they still continue to occupy these three villages. In addition to seizing the villages, they also have forced and threatened the villagers to register their household members as Thai citizens. The invasion of Lao villages by reactionary soldiers under Thai influence is not accidental; it is actually premeditated. The plan was developed by the Beijing expansionists in cooperation with the American imperialists.

It is well known that Beijing and Washington are now increasing their military cooperation. Each side has its own objectives for cooperating in specifically military relations as well as in other areas. On the one hand, Beijing wants the United States to modernize its armed forces; but on the other hand, Washington wants to use Beijing as a tool to hold against the USSR and all socialist countries, especially directly against the three Indochinese countries and other progressive countries in Southeast Asia.

In order to build up their military role and popularity to grab U.S. aid, the Beijing reactionaries have increased their efforts and schemes for invading. As an opener, they invaded the SRV along its northern border to welcome the visit of Reagan and they also invaded the PRK along the Kampuchea-Thai border using men from the scattered Pol Pot troops in cooperation with reactionary troops under Thai influence.

In continuing to build its military strength, Beijing also sent many battalions very near the Lao-Sino border in the northern part of Phongsaly Province. At the same time, Chinese troops intruded into Lao territory and shot many artillery shells into Lao villages. Along with this, the controlling Beijing power also let reactionary troops under Thai influence invade and occupy the three Lao villages in Sayabouri Province. All these various events are continuous, systematic and well planned. Everybody knows that before the invasion of the Lao villages by Thai reactionary troops, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, the Thai supreme

military commander and army commander-in-chief, visited China and that these events immediately occurred after his visit. Therefore, these events doubtless came from the obscure and insane plots of the American imperialists who are cooperating with the controlling Beijing hegemonist expansionists, along with the controlling lackeys in the whole area.

Last Monday, the spokesman for the Information Office of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared to the general public that, "They themselves acknowledge that the three villages presently controlled by the reactionary troops under Thai influence are marked on maps as being in Laos."

This acknowledgement proves that the reactionaries under Thai influence know that Ban Savang, Ban Kang and Ban Mai are in LPRP territory. Since they acknowledge that they are in Lao territory, why did they invade and control these three villages and claim Thai ownership? Is this behavior an invasion of LPRP sovereignty? Or is it correct behavior?

All the ethnic peoples of Laos resent tremendously this invasion by reactionaries under Thai influence. Our people are protesting to them to respect our sovereignty and the perfect land of the LPRP and, specifically, to urgently and unconditionally withdraw their troops from LPRP territory; also, to accept total responsibility for the damage that they have caused. We protest to make the reactionaries act in strict accordance with the Lao-Thai agreement that was signed in 1979 by the prime ministers of both countries.

We call on progressive peoples who are devoted to and lovers of fairness and world peace to denounce widely the military invasion of the LPRP by reactionaries under Thai influence. The Lao people are determined not to lose even one inch of their beloved land. We the people must be united, exert our efforts to increase the solidarity among the peoples in the entire nation and the special international solidarity with Vietnam, Kampuchea, the USSR and all fraternal socialist countries and other progressive peoples around the world. This time, we must be determined to exert our efforts to increase our alertness in order to intercept and destroy the obscure and insane plots and schemes of the Beijing hegemonist expansionists, the American imperialists and the reactionaries under Thai influence.

And our people also should be more attentive so that such dreadful events will not occur again, defend our beloved country with all our efforts and not let any enemy invade and occupy our land. Our history is a good indicator for all of us children of Laos.

12597

CSO: 4206/142

CHAMPASSAK WOOD INDUSTRY REORGANIZED EXPORTS, PROFITS NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 18 Jun 84 p 2

[Commentary: "Expansion of Champassak Province Wood Industry"]

[Excerpts] The experimental logging and wood fabrication enterprise in Champassak Province is one of the companies that was organized in 1979 under the supervising guidance of the provincial administration. After its establishment, it was initially operated as a subsidiary enterprise, with all profits allocated to the budgetary fund. After its operation for a period as a subsidiary, in 1982 the company management reorganized the enterprise's production in accordance with the stipulated measures that the cabinet laid out as the basis for turning it into a business enterprise with monthly financial reports and expected net profits guaranteed to three beneficiaries, the state, collectives and individuals.

For 1981 alone, our company cut and gathered a total 11,045 cubic meters of softwood and hardwood logs and we were able to make a total profit of 830,832 kip.

In 1982, our company was able to cut and gather 31,333 cubic meters of logs, which included 10,373 cubic meters of old softwoods and ordinary hardwoods and 3303 cubic meters of special hardwoods that had been cut in past years. In the same year, our saw mill produced 748 cubic meters of lumber; 911 cubic meters [of lumber] was exported. As for the fabrication of wood products, we manufactured 2175 tables and chairs and 2651 other wood products. We were able to have income of 18,625,185 kip. We produced more than projected. We were able to have a total turnover of 25,465,455 kip, [with] tax revenues of 1,135,244 kip, forest preserve costs of 663,504 kip and a profit of 6,328,416 kip on equipment. The company received 50 percent for its treasury, equivalent to 4,139,666 kip. From its treasury, the company was able to perform its duties by successfully sharing the profits with the state, collectives and individuals.

In 1983, our net production volume was 20,757 cubic meters of cut and gathered logs, which included the supply for the Sok Amnuouay Saw Mill. It produced 2612 cubic meters of lumber, including exports of 1059 cubic meters, and manufactured 4834 tables and chairs and other wood products. Calculating all the figures, our company was able to make a total profit of 14,837,920 kip.

For just the first 4 months of 1984, our company was able to cut a total of 17,534 cubic meters of logs and transport 13,984 cubic meters of logs to the saw mill.

Comrade Boualy Soukaloun stated that because of concern for the standard of living of our cadres and workers, our company has laid down additional policies. In addition to the salary policy implemented by the party and the state, the company has also laid down policies concerning social welfare, for example, job security. The administrative level receives two uniforms per year and each production worker receives four. In the event of illness on duty, the company has a policy of paying 100 percent of the costs for medicine. In case of ordinary illness, with certification from a doctor, an employee can receive 1000 kip per month for medicine. In the event of death, in addition to 12 months support pay, there is also a funeral fund.

12597

CSO: 4206/139

ARTICLE DISCUSSES 'YELLOW RAIN' ISSUE

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 29 May 84 p 3

["Talking Together" Column by Champaphet: "Yellow Rain"]

[Text] Many people are interested in knowing what "yellow rain" really is and why the U.S. government talks about it so often.

In response to this interest I would like to clarify this issue. On 13 September 1981 Alexander Haig, former U.S. secretary of state, accused the USSR of using chemical weapons to kill animals and people in Laos, Kampuchea, and Afghanistan at a news media association in West Berlin. Since then U.S. representatives at the UN and others in the government of the United States along with the Voice of America have opened a barrage of anti-Soviet propaganda. The Reagan administration propagandizes in the same manner, and every once in a while whenever people do not pay attention to it they will talk about it again using the propaganda technique of Goebbels, a follower of Hitler: "Keep talking until the people believe."

Yellow rain is defined as a poisonous chemical powder sprayed in the air to kill people and animals. The poisonous chemical powder contains tricothecenes or mycotoxins produced from a type of mushroom called fusarium.

After the U.S. government propagandized repeatedly in this manner scientific research laboratories of various countries, e.g., the Mirocha Research Laboratory, etc., did some research by giving physical examinations to Lao refugees, e.g., Lao Soung, who fled Phou Bia Mountain because they were henchmen of the CIA, and [refugees in] Kampuchea and Afghanistan. They examined only human feces and urine specimens of the refugees, but they found no poison. They also studied water and foliage from Laos, Kampuchea, and Afghanistan to look for the poison, but again they found nothing. The researchers examined a Lao Soung couple, Mrs Yang Cheuy and Mr Lo Nao Chao, who claimed that they had been poisoned. After a detailed examination the doctors concluded that this couple had [swollen] bodies because there were many pregnant women and because of malnutrition.

Doctor Kamada examined a Pol Pot soldier named Chan Man at the Khao I-dang refugee center (Thailand). It was rumored that the soldier had contracted poison, but the doctor found that Mr Chan Man had black water fever which is

a type of malaria; however, he did not believe it and he died a month later. In Africa and Asia, e.g., in Afghanistan, doctors also found black water fever instead of the poison chemical powder as the U.S. government had slandered.

From repeated and careful studies by Professor Meselson of Harvard University, Professor Robinson, and Professor Hay of Leeds University, and others in the United States, the yellow rain accusation by the Washington administration was groundless and was fabricated in order to poison the opinions and to persuade the American people to go along with an arms increase for Reagan. This violated the Geneva protocol of 1925 on banning chemical weapons and a 1972 accord banning biochemical poison weapons.

The latest news from the West was that 50 former American soldiers who had once fought in South Vietnam and who were victims of chemical substances had filed a lawsuit against 3 American companies producing chemicals involved in chemical warfare in Indochina, and a U.S. court had fined the three companies over 3 million American dollars.

Everything that we have said here shows the crime of the American imperialists who destroyed human beings by refusing to honor the signed international agreements. It also reveals a facade of open and utmost deception against world opinion.

9884

CSO: 4206/135

SRV TECHNICIANS BUILD HYDROPOWER DAM IN MONG AREA

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Thongphim: "Smiles Of The Mong In The Pha Lavek Area"]

[Excerpts] The people in the Pha Lavek area, the northern area of Hom District, Vientiane Province, through which the clear and cool Nam Pang and Nam Hom Rivers flow, are all Mong.

Of course, the smiles on the Pha Lavek people's faces only appeared after the nation was liberated. The LPRP has brought the light of the revolution to them, and now they are also bringing electric light to their village. Electricity in the Pha Lavek mountainous area is new for the Mong. The Nam Pang hydropower dam with 20 kW was built by the Ministry of Defense which organized forces to construct it plus the local people's forces, and especially with the cooperation of Vietnamese experts. The construction was carried out feverishly for over 4 months from 16 January to 18 May 1984 and was gloriously completed. The completion of the Nam Pang hydropower dam has been a most important condition for economic and industrial construction in the rural development plan, especially development in the Pha Lavek area north of Hom District.

Captain Maikeo who is responsible for this hydropower plant's construction said that since Hom District is located in a mountainous and hard-to-reach area, there are as yet no communications routes, especially by car. Transportation and the exchange of goods between the district and the province is difficult and mostly they depend on airplanes. Therefore, the construction of the hydropower plant encountered many difficulties. Sometimes, because of transportation the equipment did not arrive on time, and the delay led to a loss of more construction time. However, they had to rush to complete it before the rainy season. Another thing was that the weather was not good. However, because of the good judgement of the inspection cadres and the spirit of the cadres and the people in this locality to endure all difficulties, they were able to gloriously complete the construction of the dam that is able to produce 20 kW.

Speaking of the technicians at the Nam Pong hydropower plant construction in the Pha Lavek area north of Hom District, the workers and the people who participated in the construction will always be grateful to the Vietnamese

experts and workers who demonstrated their lofty spirit of proletarian internationalism and who devoted themselves wholeheartedly to this construction. Comrade Nguyen (Tak Teun) an expert who was responsible for this dam construction and who also provided guidance in technical matters said, "We were assigned by the Vietnamese and Lao parties and governments to build the hydropower dam in the Pha Lavek area. Besides seeing the difficulties in construction we were also aware of the standard of living of the people in the Pha Lavek area where it is very difficult in terms of making a living. This helped us to be most decisive in our task to complete the construction of this dam quickly. Its purpose is to use electricity in constructing a new life for the rural area in Pha Lavek."

The success of constructing this hydropower dam makes the Mong in the mountainous area happy and gives them more confidence in the leadership of the party and government and their concern that is always to fight for the happiness of the nation and the prosperity of the people of ethnic groups. Mr (Pheuy Louang) said that when the party and government came to construct this hydropower dam and sent bulldozers and tractors to the people in the Pha Lavek area in Hom District, this made the people most happy because it steadily upgraded the construction of the Mong's new life.

The construction of the hydropower dam has made it possible for other work to expand, such as sawmill(s), irrigation systems, rice mill(s), etc. These will be constructed in the near future. The people in the Pha Lavek area will have a wide scale of rice fields. Slash-and-burn agriculture will be completely eliminated. From the attention of the party and government plus the heritage of bravery and persistence and the spirit of diligence of the people in Hom District, especially in the Pha Lavek area, the land of heroes, they will have a new role, and strength and prosperity in the future.

9884

CSO: 4206/135

SIHO BANNAVONG BLASTS THAI OCCUPATION OF VILLAGES

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Jun 84 pp 2, 3

["Commentary" Column: "Comrade Siho Bannavong, Assistant Chairman of the Vientiane Capital Administrative Committee, Gives His Views on the Thai Reactionary Armed Forces Occupation of Lao Territory"]

[Text] Committee chairman, honored guests, and respected friends, a few days ago the people in Vientiane Capital and the Lao people throughout the nation received the bitter news that Thai troops commanded by ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling clique had invaded and captured the Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in Meuang Thong Canton, Paklai District, Sayaboury Province. This news about the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles who had violated the joint statement between Laos and Thailand signed by the prime ministers of both countries in 1979 enraged the Lao people of ethnic groups throughout the country. This was a shameless and open violation of the sovereignty of our land, and it damaged relations between our fraternal neighboring countries that had long had a good heritage since ancient times. It was against the mutual interests of Laos and Thailand that forever hope to maintain peace and good relations with each other. The words of the leaders of the Kingdom of Thailand from the king and many leading politicians along with ordinary people and also the words of Lao cadres and all the Lao people that "Laos and Thailand are neighboring countries...the Mekong River and the over 1,600 km border between them cannot cut them off from each other" were trampled on by the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles in collaboration with the reactionary clique in the Beijing ruling circles, hoping to destroy the neighborly relations between Laos and Thailand. This is the [plan] of the Beijing colonialists and expansionists who want to see military clashes at the borders of each country in Indochina, resulting in further tensions in Southeast Asia.

Now the Lao people in the three villages in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, are unhappy because they are being suppressed by Thai soldiers and are forced to be trained on Thai territory and to call themselves Thai. Meanwhile, Thai soldiers hoisted their national flag in the villages they had captured.

Those who have a conscience have raised a question as to why the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles have raised this issue on the border between Uttaradit and Sayaboury Provinces for discussion by using the Thai armed forces to invade first, even though the two provinces and the two countries have never

had any border dispute. In order to make the Mekong River and the Lao-Thai border a friendly one the two countries had set up a state-level committee to carry out discussions, and both sides had promised to get rid of the bandits who look for trouble and who provoke the border area. However, why have the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles claimed their right over these three villages on Lao territory? Of course, it was an act that had been calculated in advance, for example, after Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, the Thai supreme commander and the army commander-in-chief, had visited China, where he agreed with the plan of the Beijing ruling circles to dismantle the Lao revolution and, in fact, the revolutions of the three countries in Indochina. Consequently, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek might want to show his loyalty and to call himself brave by creating war. This clearly demonstrated the actual conduct of the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles because in the past, especially since early 1984, the Thai armed forces have increasingly and continually violated Lao sovereignty from north to south on land and water and in the air. At the end of January 1984 Thailand moved many of its troop forces in the Doi Pha Mon area in Pak Tha District, Oudomsai Province, in order to save the Lao exiles who were being punished by our military forces. The Thai troops fired artillery into Lao territory many times and also put soldiers at many locations along the border.

In March 1984, although Laos had asked the Thai to halt military maneuvers in Nongkhai Province facing Vientiane Capital, this request was ignored. This was considered a challenge and a direct threat to the safety of downtown Vientiane District, the LPDR capital.

On the night of 18 April 1984 a vessel of the Thai Mekong River Operations Unit [MROU] from Beungkan violated the Lao water border in Paksan and also fired a 60 mm mortar and many heavy machine guns at downtown Paksan District, damaging a number of houses and the property of the people.

On 28 April 1984 Thai troops in Khong Chiam District, Ubon Ratchathani Province, fired 81 [mortar rounds] at Ban Dong Kwang and Ban Pong, Phon Thong District, Champassak Province. In the days that followed the Thai troops also used helicopters twenty-eight [times] to fly over to spy on and threaten the people in these two villages.

In particular, soon after the official visit to China of the Thai military armed forces delegation led by Gen Athit Kamlang-ek from 15 to 22 May, on the other side [of the province] on 25 May 1984 over 100 Thai troops violated the territory of Ban Savang, Ban Kang, and Ban Mai, Paklai District, Sayaboury Province. However, they were beaten back by the local people's military forces immediately causing injury and death to the Thai troops causing them to retreat. On 25 May 1984 the Thai troops violated the same area again, but they were beat back by the people's military forces and were forced to retreat. After these two losses the Thai soldiers were feverishly preparing to conduct a new invasion by using a large force. Meanwhile, they [claimed loudly] that the Lao Reds had captured these three villages from Thailand. On 1 June 1984 Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and the high-level Thai military delegation arrived at

Ban Bo Bia in order to organize this direct attack. Later on 5 June 1984 they sent L-19's to fly reconnaissance missions over Laos in this area. At 9000 on 6 June 1984 Thai troops fired at the three villages with artillery and shamelessly and openly attacked and captured them. The local people's military forces bravely fought back, inflicting death and injury. After they had captured these three villages, on 8 June 1984 they continued to capture more land in Laos to Na Pai southeast of Ban Mai. On 9 June 1984 they continued by capturing Ban Muang east of Ban Mai, and forced the villagers to dig trenches for use in fighting. Each day they used helicopters equipped with loudspeakers to spread news and to fire so as to threaten the villagers not to fight back or else they would be killed. Meanwhile, in other places many Thai units have been moving to the Lao border and are continuously carrying out military maneuvers. Our people's military forces have been following the incidents closely. The recent attacks and the feverish preparation of the forces this time clearly demonstrate that the capture of the three Lao border villages in Paklai District is not the ultimate purpose of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles. It is merely the beginning of a new collaboration between them and the Beijing reactionary ruling circles against the LPDR along with escalation to seize the northern border of the SRV and to support the genocidal Pol Pot against the Kampuchean people.

Even though they have clever schemes they will not be able to defeat the firm and special solidarity that has already been tested between the Lao, Vietnamese, and Kampuchean peoples. The people in the three Indochinese nations will resolutely dismantle and painfully defeat their schemes just as their boss, the American imperialists, experienced on the Indochinese battlefield.

On this urgent occasion, as a result of the capture of part of Laos by Thai troops we, now more than ever, wholeheartedly praise those border armed forces and the public security forces and also the people in the area occupied by Thai troops, in [words missing] in particular and in Sayaboury Province in general, in fighting against the enemies in order to defend Laos.

We fully support the reasonable protests of the LPDR government asking the Thai ruling circles to immediately stop the enemy acts toward Laos. First of all they must unconditionally withdraw their troops from the three Lao villages and compensate for all the damages against the Lao people resulting from their deeds.

condemn their cruel acts toward the Lao people. They must be solely responsible for any consequences.

We ask the people all over Vientiane Capital along with the mass organizations (trade unions, women's associations, youth unions, and the front), soldiers, police, cadres, and government employees from all ministries and also from committee-equivalents throughout the country to unite with the Lao people and to stand side by side with the people in Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang to dismantle and completely defeat all the schemes of the ultrarightist reactionaries in Thai ruling circles.

We ask governments and peoples all over the world who love peace and justice to sympathize with the Lao government and its people in fighting against the enemies and the invaders! National defense and national construction must be successful. Thank you.

VIENTIANE CITES ZHIVKOV MESSAGE TO SOUPHANOUVONG

BK241419 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 24 Jul 84

["Recent" greetings message from Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to Souphanouvong, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and chairman of Supreme People's Council]

[Text] On behalf of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and in my own name, I am pleased to extend cordial congratulations to you on the occasion of your 75th birthday.

Our people ~~are~~ aware of the heavy tasks you are performing in your capacity as one of the high-level leaders of the Lao people in the struggle for national independence and social progress and in your capacity as a fighter for the fraternal friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community and for the defense of the policy of ensuring friendly, stable, and neighborly relations in Southeast Asia.

I am pleased to have noticed your personal contributions to strengthening and consolidating the friendly relations between our two parties and peoples in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

On the occasion of the important birthday of beloved Comrade Souphanouvong, please accept my sincere wishes for your good health and long life and for new, greater success in carrying out the activities under your high responsibility for the well-being of the Lao people and for the cause of peace, democracy, and socialism.

CSO: 4206/148

COMMENTARY ON THAI 'REACTIONARY CLIQUE'

BK140500 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1100 GMT 13 Jul 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Where Is the Ultrarightist Reactionary Thai Clique Leading Thailand?"]

[Text] Thailand is a country famed for its wealth in natural resources. It is a big country densely populated by several million inhabitants. It has possessed time-honored cultural foundations which testify to its past glories and prosperity. In addition, the Thai people themselves have also maintained a glorious tradition of hard work to develop their country into an independent and free society. The Thai people have strongly aspired to live in peace and friendship with neighboring countries. In fact, such a rich country, blessed with numerous favorable conditions, should become one of the most prosperous countries in Southeast Asia if its independence is firmly guaranteed and its people are able to freely carry out their livelihood.

However, it is deplorable that over the past 40 years, developments in the political, economic, and social fields in that country have changed drastically and unfavorably, thus bringing numerous difficulties to the Thai people. National-minded politicians in Thailand are extremely worried about the future of their country. Of course, the Thai people are fully aware of the current reality in their country. Their national economy has been dominated, manipulated, and sabotaged by foreign capitalists, especially those among the overseas Chinese. As a result, Thailand's foreign debt has now climbed to \$11 billion. This means that each Thai citizen has to be responsible for paying over 4,000 baht to Thailand's foreign debt. Moreover, an estimated 2 million people are now unemployed. These people have become pitiful victims of domestic and foreign capitalists and opportunists. A large number of young children have to work to earn their living. The rate of antinational and antisocial crime has sharply risen. Cases of homicide, hooliganism, smuggling, and prostitution have been reported daily by local newspapers, radio, and television.

While the economic and social situation is in such a shambles and in a confusing state, the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles are trying to lead Thailand to a new danger by beefing up its military forces and relying on the imperialists and other reactionary forces to pursue

a hostile and greedy policy to create tension with neighboring countries and to display their warmongering and militarist nature. More serious still, they have colluded with the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists to carry out an adventure which will directly affect the interests of Thailand and the entire Thai people.

History clearly records the crime of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles for acting as a tool of the imperialists in waging the war of aggression against Laos and the other Indochinese countries for several decades. The ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles sent thousands of Thai people to get killed in the war of aggression of U.S. imperialists in Indochina and in creating disturbances along the borders with neighboring countries. No country sharing a common border with Thailand has been without a border dispute with the country. The worsening of the state of neighborly relations along the Lao-Thai border also stems solely from the hostile acts of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries.

Even though the government of the Kingdom of Thailand has sometimes adopted a foreign policy of peace and friendship toward neighboring countries, especially the LPDR, such a policy is always sabotaged by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles. Currently, while clamoring that they have attached special importance to relations with Laos, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have sent their armed forces to nibble at and occupy the three Lao villages in Sayaboury Province; and while strongly denouncing the genocidal Pol Pot clique, they are giving support and assistance to its remnants and have allowed them to use Thai soil as a sanctuary to oppose the revival of the Kampuchean people. While Indonesia and Malaysia have clearly stated that the current threat to Southeast Asia has come from the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have stepped up their collusion with the Beijing clique.

Everyone knows full well that China has instructed the Maoist Thai and reactionary elements among the overseas Chinese in Thailand, who are the fifth column monopolizing the Thai economy and attempting to take control of Thailand's politics, to create disturbances to serve Beijing's scheme of expansionism and hegemonism. One map of the PRC is reportedly designed to annex Thailand as part of Chinese territory. And now the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries are willing to serve as the tool of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists for their own vested interests. To display such a sense of submission, the Thai newspaper THE NATION REVIEW recently said that because Thailand is geographically located next to China, it is necessary that it faithfully serves that country. This is because if a country with more than 1 billion people is armed with nuclear weapons and decides to invade Thailand, what can a small country like this do?

China has drastically changed its sabotage tactics after Mao died. Nevertheless, the national-minded Thai people who are concerned about the destiny of the Kingdom of Thailand can never accept the ultrarightist reactionary clique's policy of submission. Having engaged in the fierce struggles

against the colonialist imperialists and the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists, having made great sacrifices to regain their genuine national independence, and as neighbors of the Thai people, the Lao people are fully aware of the pride of their independence and strictly respect the rights to independence and territorial sovereignty of other countries. The Lao people always remember the assistance rendered by the Thai people in their struggle against the colonialists. The Lao people never forget that the Thai people resolutely fought against the ultrarightist reactionary clique in the past for sending their children to be the cannon fodder for the imperialists in their war of aggression in Laos. The Lao people are fully convinced that with their fine tradition, for the just interest of the Kingdom of Thailand, and for the sake of peace and stability in this region, the Thai people who have toppled the dictatorial militarist regime in the past will certainly oppose the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries who are colluding with the Chinese big nation expansionists and hegemonists to take Thailand along a dangerous path. They are inviting trouble for Thailand.

CSO: 4206/148

BRIEFS

ATTACKS AT TIN MINE--Comrade Khammi is one of the many doctors at the Phon Tiou tin mine hospital who have outstanding achievements and good morale, and who have received third class independence medals in this factory. He is 25 and was born in Ban Phon Ngia, Na Done Canton, Thakhek District. Concerning specialized tasks in this hospital, the cadres, workers, and people who come for treatment all say that he is very attentive. The committee responsible for the hospital also [told] me that Comrade Khammi is in complete charge whenever the committee is absent. Moreover, when the factory security unit is working or guarding different convoys he is the one assigned by the higher echelons to go with them as a doctor all the way. One afternoon in late 1982 a convoy was transporting oil from Vientiane to the Phon Tiou tin mine. When they reached the Straits of Tao Than they were ambushed by counterrevolutionaries on two mountains who fired at the convoy. Khammi jumped down from the car and fired back at them immediately along with Comrade Khamla who was in the second car, even though both of his legs were injured and it was difficult for him to move. The fighting went on for quite a while until the enemies were defeated and scattered, carrying their dead and wounded and escaping. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 13 Jun 84 p 2] 9884

ATTOPEU BANK DEPOSITS--In early 1984 cadres, workers, soldiers, police, and the people of ethnic groups around the provincial municipality of Attapeu all gradually and extensively deposited their savings in the provincial branch of the State Bank. During this period they deposited a total of 107,700 kip. The executive and technical section deposited 30,260 kip and the State and private enterprise deposited a total of 77,440 kip. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 May 84 p 1] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT POPULATION, AGRICULTURE--Tholakhom District is southeast in Vientiane Province. It is approximately 62 km north of Vientiane Capital. The whole district consists of 93 villages and 12 cantons, and its population is 37,000. In 1983 the people's rice growing, especially in agricultural co-ops, was fruitful and satisfactory. The expectation for the district for the harvest of wet rice, dry-season rice, and shifting cultivation crops was 12,600 tons, but the actual result for the wet-rice harvest over the whole district was 13,123 tons and 729 kg, exceeding the expected plan by 520 tons and 729 kg. These figures do not include the harvest of 48 hectares of dry-season rice. This means that Thoulakhom District is able to become self-sufficient in terms of rice and various food crops. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 May 84 p 2] 9884

ATTOPEU GUERRILLAS--Along with carefully organizing and guarding their localities, the military forces and guerrillas in Samakhisai District, Attopeu Province, all have been attentively improving their own forces in terms of combat tactics and military strategy in their own localities to make them strong. On 20 May 1984, in particular, over 140 cadres, combatants, and guerrillas in Se Kong Canton, of whom 16 were women, completed military training in their own locality. Along with studying combat tactics and military strategy, in the same period the guerrillas in this area also organized and completed studies of many different political documents and plenums of the party, resulting in an understanding and absorbing of party policies and the new phase of our economic construction and national security plans. In addition, everyone understands the cruel schemes of the Beijing expansionists who collaborate with the American imperialists and other reactionaries who are shamelessly dismantling our Lao revolution in many ways. Thus, all of our cadres, combatants, and people must be increasingly conscious and alert in order to resist and defeat the schemes of the invaders in a timely manner. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 May 84 p 3] 9884

RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS--Under the leadership of the LPRP, the nation has become completely liberated and the party and government have adopted directions and policies to mobilize and educate shifting cultivation farmers to come down to work rice paddies or to engage in rice-growing that requires digging, plowing, and [terracing] so they can have their own settlements. Another goal is to decrease slash-and-burn agriculture and the destruction of the forests, our nation's important natural resource. They have also been training the farmers to see clearly the great loss from the destruction of the forests and to see the value of wood as an important material for our nation and for our daily life. During the past period of nearly 9 months the people of ethnic groups who have engaged in shifting cultivation since ancient times have gradually and increasingly come down to work rice paddies, e.g., people in Phong Saly, Oudomasi, Louang Namtha, Luang Prabang, Sayaboury, Houa Phan, Xieng Khouang, Vientiane, and Khammouan Provinces. Based on incomplete figures, in this period approximately 1,000 farmer families came down to engage in rice paddy cultivation. Moreover, in places where it is not possible to come down to work rice paddies and to settle the highland farmers have decided to turn from slash-and-burn agriculture to settled farming instead, e.g., farming that requires digging, plowing, and terracing. For example, in Gnot Ou, Phong Saly, Samphansai, and Khwua Districts, Phong Saly Province, which are 95 percent mountains, they have been practicing settled farming as their occupation. Meanwhile, mountain people in some localities in Oudomsai, Louang Prabang Province, and in Pha Khom, Luang Prabang District, and Luang Prabang Province have all changed to rice farming that requires digging, settled rice farming, and terracing, and now there are many thousands of hectares. The conversion of highland farmers to come down to practice settled farming not only implements the party policies on conservation, cultivation, and improving the forest, but also steadily improves their lifestyle. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Jun 84 p 1] 9884

HOUA PHAN RICE TAXES, SALES--Agricultural taxes throughout Houa Phan were 3,247 tons which was 100 percent of the plan, and exceeded that for 1982 by 15.23 percent. The total for rice purchase and exchange was 3,475 tons or 80.20 percent of the plan. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Jun 84 p 1] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT ENEMY OPERATIONS--Since early 1984 the guerrilla unit in Ban Pha, Pha Tang Canton, Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province, has attentively and actively carried out national defense and security in its own locality. During this period they inspected and guarded their land on a continuing basis and were able to suppress in a timely manner the enemies who had sneaked in to incite unrest among the people. Meanwhile, they also opened courses on politics and military matters, and did other tasks. After doing this work there were 20 outstanding people, of which 5 were in the first category and 15 were in the second category. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 9 Jun 84 p 1] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT RESETTLEMENT--By being mobilized and encouraged by the local administrative committee and by clearly seeing that after many years of living on the mountains and engaging in slash-and-burn agriculture not only had they destroyed the forest, the nation's valuable resource, but also had no solid base, 49 hilltribe families in Ban Kiue Kwang, Ban Ko, Ban Soumphai, and Ban Na in Pha Tang Canton, Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province, including 15 Yao families and 34 Lao Loum families, numbering over 270 people, happily converted in early 1984 from shifting cultivation to lowland cultivation in the flatlands of Noi Thin On District area. A trade union comrade from the provincial party committee who was also secretary of the Vang Vieng District Party Committee told us that the district and province have been paying special attention to supplying materials and equipment for production to the people who have just converted to lowland cultivation in the flatland. They have also organized the forces of the people who used to grow rice nearby by actually guiding them to help them get started and to finish in time with the season. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Jun 84 p] 9884

VIENTIANE RECRUITMENT--By clearly seeing the policies of the party and government and the role of Lao youth in national defense and social construction, early this year the youth in different villages and cantons around Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province, were awakened to serve the country, especially in the ranks of national defense and security. There are 85 people in the regional forces and district police who are now attentively studying politics and military science in order to improve their knowledge and ability for their specialized task and to firmly grasp the directions, policies, and military strategy in self-defense, maintaining peace and order in the country, and facilitating the people of ethnic groups to feel free to build [their lives] and to make a living. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Jun 84 pp 1, 3] 9884

HISTORICAL DAYS MEETING--On the morning of 2 June, the committee in charge of organizing the celebration of two historical days held its plenary session in Vientiane under the chairmanship of General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, national defense minister, commander in chief of the LPA, and chairman of this committee. At this session, a discussion was held on various detailed plans concerning the implementation of the Political Bureau's resolution and an instruction issued by the party Central Committee Secretariat on the celebration of the country's two great historical days--the 30th anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the LPDR in 1975. [Text] [BK050340 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Jun 84]

TURBINE INSTALLED -- The installation of the fifth 50,000 kilowatts per hour electric turbine unit which started in mid-January 1984 and lasted until 15 June 1984 is now completely finished. The installation of this electric turbine unit is one of the three major stages of the Nam Ngum Dam construction project. There are two major parts to the construction agreement: installation of the electric power turbines, which is already completed, and installation of the transformers which is 65 percent completed. It is expected that the project will be completed in September 1984. The agreement was signed between Laos, Japan and the World Bank in October 1982. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 18 Jun 84 p 1] 12597

CHAMPASSAK COOPERATIVES -- Ninety additional units have been completed of the task to expand agricultural cooperatives throughout Champassak Province since the beginning of 1984. For 1984 alone, 185 units will be added. Therefore, up to the present, 551 agricultural cooperatives have been established in 823 villages. Of these, the most outstanding districts are Phonthong District, with 107 agricultural cooperative units, and Mouang Khong District, with 110 units. Based on incomplete statistics, up to now in the entire province there are 235 units that collectively have a total 22,837 hectares of rice fields, 220 hectares of coffee plantations and 9290 water buffalo. All this is to implement the policies of the state for improving the efficiency of production, especially those of rice and secondary crops, so that total production will reach 1.4 million tons in 1984. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 18 Jun 84 p A12] 12597

DANANG PORT ACTIVITY -- During the first 6 months of the year, the cadres, workers and state employees of the No 2 International Transport Company of Savannakhet Province were able to execute 11 percent more tasks than projected. This includes a total transport volume of around 24,000 tons, namely, transport from Danang to Laos, 10,500 tons; interprovincial transport, 5000 tons; intraprovincial, 3700 tons; from Laos to the port of Danang, 5400 tons. The total traffic volume was 10,820,400 kilometer tons. The transport company was able to earn total revenues of 63,197,600 kip. Presently, these people are competing enthusiastically in implementing the 1984 plan in order to succeed victoriously. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 19 Jun 84 p A8] 12597

MPR DELEGATION ARRIVES--A delegation of the Mongolian-Lao Intergovernmental Economic and Scientific Cooperation Committee led by Myatabyn Peljee, deputy chairman of the Mongolian People's Republic and chairman of the committee, arrived in Vientiane on the afternoon of 24 July to attend a ceremony to hand over to Laos a 60-bed hospital built in Xiengkhouang Province with financial assistance from the MPR. The construction of the hospital has been recently completed. The MPR delegation was welcomed upon its arrival at Wattai Airport by Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, and a number of high-ranking cadres concerned. Orsooglyn Nyamaa, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the MPR to Laos, together with a number of embassy staff members, also welcomed the delegation at the airport. [Text] [BK250852 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 25 Jul 84]

VIENTIANE ADMINISTRATION NOTES SHOPS TO BE CONTROLLED -- Announcement - Subject: Control of Private Businesses. Based on the consent of the Ministry of Culture which has entrusted the responsibility for controlling and inspecting some of the private businesses active in cultural trades to the Vientiane Cultural Administration, [the following establishments] are to be under the control of the Vientiane Administration: 1) amateur artistic units; 2) folk play units; 3) movie projector shops; 4) bookstores and newspaper stands; 5) printing and photocopy shops; 6) beauty salons; 7) photography shops; 8) silver and gold craft shops; 9) movie theaters and playhouses; and 10) cassette and tape recording shops. Therefore, from now on, all private businesses named above are under the control of the Vientiane Administration Cultural Section under the direct guidance of the Vientiane Administration Committee and the Ministry of Culture. [dated] Vientiane, 26 Jun 1984, [signed] Vientiane Administration Committee, Khambou Saonixai. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 28 Jun 84 p 1] 12597

QUAKER FOOD ASSISTANCE -- A dedication ceremony [to commemorate the handing over] of 66 tons of glutinous rice from the World Food Organization to the LPRP was held on the morning of 27 Jun 1984 at Vientiane. Mrs Wendy Batson, who represented the Laos and Vietnam Quaker Friends Organization [as published], gave a dedication address on behalf of the World Food Organization. Afterwards, Mr Khamphet Phengmouang, first vice chairman of the State Planning Committee and who represented the Lao government and the Lao people, gave an acceptance speech in which he expressed appreciation for this as well as other assistance by the World Food Organization and the Laos and Vietnam Quaker Friends Organization. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 28 Jun 84 p 1] 12597

CSO: 4206/142

MICHAEL CHEN EXPECTED TO CONTEST GERAKAN PRESIDENCY

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 19 Jun 84 p 4

[Article: "Datuk Michael Chen Is Expected To Contest the Presidency"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Monday [18 June]--Datuk Michael Chen, Gerakan [Malaysian People's Action Party] vice president, has not yet decided whether he will run against Party President Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik at the party meeting to be held on 29 and 30 September.

"It is still too early to think about this matter. I will announce my decision when the time is right," he said.

In a meeting with reporters in his office here today, Datuk Chen said the party meeting is still far off.

"Let's wait. I will inform the members whether I will contest the presidency or not," he explained.

Meanwhile, sources close to Datuk Chen reported that he would attempt to take over the presidency to make some changes in the party.

According to these sources, Datuk Chen wants to run against Datuk Dr Lim because he finds Lim's leadership style unsatisfactory.

"Members feel Datuk Dr Lim's leadership is ineffective because of the party's failure to obtain additional seats in the 1982 general election," the sources explained.

These sources also felt that the party should be better represented on the Central Operating Committee.

"The 16 members appointed to this committee are insufficient in view of the present situation and the review being undertaken to establish new boundaries for the electoral regions," he explained.

For example, the sources said, MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] has 33 members on the Central Operating Committee while Gerakan has only 22.

Further, according to these sources, an important factor that will help Datuk Chen decide whether to contest the presidency is how the party's members and representatives feel about such a contest.

It is predicted that Datuk Chen will win if supporters of Dr Goh Cheng Teik, deputy general secretary, fail to support him.

The sources added that Dr Goh would run for the position of general secretary now held by Tan Sri Teh Ewe Lim if Datuk Chen ran against Datuk Dr Lim.

The sources said Dr Goh, who is also the deputy minister of agriculture, would contest the presidency if Datuk Chen was reluctant to put himself forward as a candidate to run against Datuk Dr Lim.

Datuk Chen became a member of Gerakan in June 1981.

6804

CSO: 4213/240

BAN ON PENINSULA LOG EXPORTS SET FOR JANUARY

Ban, New Measures Explained

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 11 Jun 84 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sunday [10 June] The government is banning the export of all logs from the Malaysian Peninsula as of 1 January of next year because of the present shortage of lumber.

Datuk Paul Leong Khee Seong, minister of primary industries, said today that this measure will ensure a supply of logs from the peninsular states for processing within the region.

The export quota, he added, has been lowered steadily since the quota system was introduced in 1976.

The minister made this statement when he announced this year's reduced export quota which has been set at 41,000 cubic meters or 0.5 percent of total log production.

11 Varieties

According to the minister, this year's quota is lower than the 0.6 percent of total production set last year. This is a continuation of the gradual reduction in the quota from 5 percent of production in 1976 to 1 percent in 1982.

The reduction of the export quota effected in 1976, he said, was targeted at gradually lowering the quota until the export of any logs would no longer be sanctioned.

Datuk Paul Leong explained that there were fewer high-quality logs in this country now because of overcutting by logging operators in the past and the lowering of criteria since 1981 for trees that could be felled in forest preserves.

Because of the shortage of high-quality logs, he said, 11 varieties of logs were banned for export as of last year.

As a result, more logs are available for processing in saw mills and plywood factories.

"In addition, I also directed the Forestry Service and the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) to conduct a study of lumber production and the demand for lumber here," he said.

That study found that the demand on the local market for lumber would exceed production by 1987 based on this year's demand and the production of lumber, he said.

It was also calculated in that study that domestic demand rises during the same period," he said.

Nevertheless, the minister does not expect the increased production of lumber for domestic use to create any problems in meeting export requirements.

Measures

"To solve this problem, all logs must be processed domestically, and this can only be done if log exports are abolished," he clarified.

In addition, a number of measures are and will be taken to augment log production. They consist of:

- A program for replanting a basic stock of trees for eventual logging,
- Encouraging the use of a wide variety of logs rather than depending on one variety only,
- Attempting to augment production by using trees found in Sabah and Sarawak,
- Augmenting production by importing logs,
- "Rubber tree" production could support the demand for logs in both the domestic and overseas markets.

Datuk Paul Leong also said that logs to be exported this year come from regions under development, where dams are being constructed and agriculture is being introduced or expanded.

Applications for permits to export logs should be submitted by 31 August. Applications received after that date will not be processed, the minister added.

Editorial Comments

[Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 12 Jun 84 p 10]

[Text] The impression gained from the government's decision to ban the export of logs from the Malaysian Peninsula as of 1 January is that the ban is more symbolic than real because the number of logs exported from the peninsula is small compared with total log production--only 0.5 percent or 41,000 cubic meters this year. Furthermore, since the export quota system was introduced in 1976, the sale of logs overseas was no longer stressed. The requirements

for these exports, such as export permits, the type and size of logs that could be exported, were levied to give priority to the domestic use of these products. Most logs approved for export were of a type and quality not desired by domestic consumers. The export of desirable logs such as cengal [*Balanocarpus heimii*--a hard wood used for house construction], meranti [*L. Shorea albida*--a mahogany-like wood], and merbau [*Intsia bakeri* or *palembanica*--used for house construction] had been halted long ago.

So, what is important is not the total ban on log exports but the institution of long-term measures that ensure a sufficient supply of logs for domestic timber-processing industries. In this connection, it is not enough for those responsible, such as the Ministry of Primary Industries and the Forestry Service, merely to make pronouncements, but they must act quickly to carry out their programs. Datuk Paul Leong, in announcing the ban on log exports, mentioned various programs for ensuring a future supply of logs. They included the planting of a basic stock of trees, the use of a variety of logs that are well known such as rubber tree logs, and the importation of logs.

Too often we have heard the promises of various parties to promote tree planting as a future source of logs. However, aside from a number of small experimental projects, no big project has yet been developed as a truly commercial venture in the Malaysian Peninsula except for the one in Johor. The only Malaysian state that has apparently given serious attention to the planned tree planting program is Sabah even though it still is rich in native forests. Sabah's farsightedness must be used as a model by peninsular states that will be facing a log shortage in the near future. However, before we think about implementing large-scale tree planting, we must take steps to protect the existing native forests.

Actually, the peninsula timber industry would not be facing a threat of a log shortage if the best possible maintenance and rehabilitation plan had been carried out in virgin forests that now have been logged. Virgin forests that have been logged were not maintained and rehabilitated sufficiently although basically that is considered to be part of the logging operator's responsibility. Because sufficient maintenance and rehabilitation were not carried out, the recovery of virgin forests that were logged has been delayed. Tropical hardwood requires more than 50 years to grow to the stage at which it may be felled, and native forests that are well maintained and rehabilitated after they have been logged may be logged again after about 25 years.

Other than intensifying the maintenance and rehabilitation of virgin forests after they have been logged, a number of short and long-term steps must be taken to ensure a continuous and sufficient supply of logs. These include opening up logged fields (to replanting), encouraging the use of low-quality logs, reducing waste, and facilitating the importation of logs from Sabah and Sarawak. Only by husbanding its resources can the Malaysian Peninsula prolong by several years the time in which it has an adequate supply of logs because there is so much waste. It is estimated that less than 45 percent of a log is used in the milling process. Many kinds of logs are not used because the domestic and overseas markets will not accept them. With modern processing methods, including the use of chemicals, the quality of this type

of wood can be improved enough to make it acceptable to the consumer. The greatest impression would be made if the timber industry were converted into a truly national industry by uniting the Malaysian Peninsula with Sabah and Sarawak in this project. These latter two states still have extensive forests, and the greater part of their timber products is exported as logs. Action must be taken in this direction immediately because the timber industry is very important to the country's economy.

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CSO: 4213/240

FOREIGN OFFICE BUMIPUTERA STAFF RELUCTANT TO SERVE OVERSEAS

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 16 Jun 84 p 22

[Article: "Bumiputera Personnel Are Reluctant To Serve Overseas"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Friday [15 June]--For the past few years the Wisma Putra has had trouble in finding bumiputera who would be willing to serve overseas as diplomatic and administrative personnel (PTD).

More and more bumiputera PTD are leaving the service, and many have requested a transfer to domestic assignments even though they have only recently been employed by the Foreign Office.

This will continue to be a problem for a number of years in the future even though the government has established a special overseas pay allowance and appropriate health facilities. A Wisma Putra source informed BERITA HARIAN that the General Services Commission (JPA) has has to "shanghai" personnel to meet the ministry's requirements. Most of those selected did not want to be assigned to the Wisma Putra.

The source understood that the Wisma Putra must augment its PTD's by 20 to 30 percent each year.

The source also said that their reluctance may be due to the fact that the majority of the bumiputra PTD's are convinced that opportunities for advancement are greater in other ministries.

"They feel that overseas service offers no long-term guarantees for their futures compared with serving in the country. A rather large number of personnel have left for this reason," he explained.

That source also said many bumiputera prefer to work for the government temporarily to obtain administrative experience before entering the private sector or setting up their own businesses.

"Unless the General Services Commission selects only those who really are prepared to work overseas, the problem will continue," he said.

An important factor behind this situation, the source said, is that most of the bumiputera students do not understand that they are assigned to the Wisma Putra prior to their employment in the Foreign Office.

Rather, he said, some request a transfer to the domestic sector after only 1 year in the Wisma Putra because they are not prepared to work in overseas administration which they feel to be too alien and discouraging.

However, the source was reluctant to provide a figure for the actual number of employees who had been transferred by the General Services Commission from overseas to domestic service.

"The English language is also a stumbling block for bumiputera students. This language is greatly needed in order to be able to carry out their assignments better while overseas," he said.

According to the source, this matter became clearer recently and is one of the reasons why bumiputera personnel feel less self-confident.

Assignments

According to the source, employees are usually placed in the Wisma Putra for 3 or 4 years prior to being assigned overseas, and the length of time spent at the Wisma Putra depends on the kinds of duties they are to handle.

The source understood that bumiputera personnel in Category A now, almost all of whom are PTD's, number more than 170 compared with the less than 100 nonbumiputera personnel.

Of the 155 employees in Category B, more than 65 percent are bumiputera. More than 75 percent of the 281 Category C personnel are bumiputera.

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CSO: 4213/240

BUMIPUTERA GIVEN PRIORITY IN NMU ADMISSION

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 19 Jun 84 p 2

[Article: "NMU Has Decided that 70 Percent of Its Students Shall Be Bumiputera"]

[Text] Alur Setar, 18 June--North Malaysia University (NMU) has decided that 70 percent of the 350 new applicants for admission to the university for the first term beginning this July shall be bumiputera, Chief Minister Datuk Sri Syed Nahar Shahabuddin announced today.

Another 30 percent of the admissions is to be set aside for nonbumiputera students, and 5 to 7 percent is set aside for applicants from Sabah and Sarawak regardless of whether they are bumiputera or nonbumiputera.

Nevertheless, it may not be possible for NMU to accept the 350 applicants calculated to be accepted for the first term, Haji Zainal Yahya, the registrar, said in his speech to an executive committee member delegation headed by the chief minister when touring the NMU temporary campus in Tanjung Pauh, 16 km from Alur Setar.

The minister explained that the problem is that not many bumiputera applicants have passed the two required courses in accounting or commercial affairs and economics.

The University Central Unit (UCU), he said, has only arranged for 140 new students for NMU while the balance will consist of "special cases" who hold diplomas in commercial affairs and accounting.

The minister reported that the Education Ministry had released \$M5 million which had been budgeted for NMU this year for the admission of 185 civil servants, of whom 57 are to be admitted to the academic track and 128 to the administrative track.

For its first term, North Malaysia University will only conduct four courses at the undergraduate level, economics, general administration, commercial affairs, and accounting.

Meanwhile, in his speech Chief Minister Datuk Sri Syed Nahar Shahabuddin said the establishment of the North Malaysia University would also turn Kedah, which to date has only been known as a "rice barn," into a center for training technocrats.

The minister also would like priority in admitting civil servants to be given to residents of Kedah State and has asked NMU to establish a policy for admitting a certain ratio of new students to those who already have had some higher education.

680.

CSO: 4213/240

BUMIPUTERA FIRMS TO PARTICIPATE IN PRC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 16 Jun 84 p 16

[Article: "Bumiputera To Participate in Projects in China"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Friday [15 June]--Two bumiputera companies will establish a joint venture to work with the Malaysia Overseas Investment Corporation Sdn Bhd [privately-owned corporation] (MOIC) in constructing projects valued at M\$1,580 million in Xiamen, China.

The government has approved this venture for the two companies, and discussions with MOIC are now in their final phase.

Mr Mohammed Abdullah Ang, MOIC executive director, reported today that the bumiputera joint venture will cooperate with MOIC in constructing projects in the Xiamen Special Economic Zone in China.

Recently, MOIC obtained agreement from the Xiamen Construction and Development Corporation (CDCX) to construct projects that can be used immediately.

These construction projects include three electric power plants, a trade complex, a residential area, a factory, a tourist center, a bridge, and other basic facilities.

Mr Mohammed Abdullah Ang added that the participation of the joint venture accords with the aims of the New Economic Policy (NEP).

"Further, by cooperating with MOIC, this venture will open up broader opportunities for trade at the international level," he explained.

MOIC, he said, had also established a special unit that would work with the Malaysian Industrial Development Agency (MIDA) to approve investment opportunities, especially for bumiputera, in the manufacturing field.

Mr Ang said the contract for the construction projects was signed in China. It called for the transfer of sophisticated technology and facilities for the establishment of a center for manufacturing rubber and timber products.

"MOIC will also sell Malaysia's primary products, rubber and logs, to the CSCX and will market items produced in Xiamen to Third World countries through its international marketing branches," he explained.

Development Effort

Mr Ang reported that the contract had been signed during the visit to China of a 33-member Malaysian trade delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie.

He said discussions between MOIC and the official Chinese representatives on an agreement for constructing two additional turnkey projects in China are in the final stage.

To encourage trade between these two countries, MOIC will also establish a branch office in Hong Kong in August. Branch offices are also planned to be opened in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou.

Mr Ang feels his agency may become involved in that country's manufacturing field since labor costs there are low. It would export those goods to international markets.

MOIC, he said, hopes to participate actively in China's development, particularly in building its infrastructure and public works projects.

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CSO: 4213/240

LABOR PARTY PRESIDENT ON 'REBUILT' ORGANIZATION

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 5 Jul 84 p 20

[Text]

The Labour Party now has a depth it has probably not enjoyed since the 1930s, says the party president, Mr Jim Anderton.

He said yesterday that the party had rebuilt its organisation after the ashes of the 1975 election defeat and had a solid base to win an election and remain in power for more than one term.

Burgeoning membership and a professional fundraising system were the consequences of the boost in organisational strength.

Mr Anderton, who will contest the Sydenham seat in Saturday's election after the exit last year of the disaffected MP Mr John Kirk from the Labour camp, has been the party president since 1979.

He said the relationship between the party and trade unions had "fallen into bad repair" when he assumed the presidency.

"It was a priority to re-establish a much greater depth of co-operation and understanding between the Labour Party and the trade unions."

The relationship had deteriorated, he said, because of a fear of electoral liability on the part of the party.

The party believed it would be blamed for everything the unions did and there was a level of suspicion among the unions that Labour only bothered with them at election time.

Commitment

"You can have a co-operative and understanding approach without

having either party, the unions or the Labour Party, dominating or telling the other what to do.

"There is a greater level of commitment from the trade unions this year to a Labour victory and it is not just the draconian legislation that the Government has put in place."

He said he was aware of a greater politicising of working people in the build-up to the snap election.

"It has given the Labour Party a depth it has never had before, or probably since the 1930s."

The "steady move forward" in the organisational field had had its rewards in membership — now about 100,000 — and in the state of the party coffers — nearly 7000 people making

monthly contributions by automatic bank payments.

Worked Hard

Asked what effect leadership, particularly that of Mr David Lange, had had on Labour's rejuvenation, Mr Anderton replied: "This began a long time before that (Mr Lange's becoming party leader).

"Bill Rowling (now Sir Wallace) worked hard to draw the party together from the ashes of the 1975 defeat."

He said Sir Wallace, who stepped down as leader in February last year, had toiled to rebuild the party, firstly through the supporters' fund and then the "victory for Labour" fund.

Sir Wallace had played a significant role, said Mr

Anderton, and was used as a "frontpiece" in rallies around the country which aimed to procure members and money.

"Since David (Lange) was elected leader, he, too, has played his part as leader in that programme."

Played Part

But it was not a question of any one person being responsible for the rejuvenation.

"It is not a Rowling or a Lange or an Anderton. It is quite a complex set of circumstances, but every person has played a part." --If Mr Anderton wins the Sydenham seat, he will stand down as the president of the party at its annual conference at the Michael Fowler Centre, in Wellington, in September.

LABOR PLANS FOR 'THINK BIG,' BORROWING ANNOUNCED IN CAMPAIGN

'Think Big' To Be Finished

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 10 Jul 84 p 6

[Article by Lynne Walsh]

[Text]

A Labour government will complete the think big projects already under construction, says the Labour leader, Mr Lange. But he warns that Labour will not be able to create new jobs overnight for workers who lose their jobs as the projects wind down.

To stop the projects now when they were so far advanced would be economic nonsense, Mr Lange told an audience of about 900 people in the Opera House last night.

Speaking in an area which is the centre of think big — a strategy, along with the 1981 Springbok tour, which helped sitting MP, the Minister of Works and Development, Mr Friedlander, to increase his 1978 majority of 100 to nearly 1600 in 1981 — Mr Lange reaffirmed Labour's support for the project.

Planning

But tapping the concern in the area over unemployment during the expected wind down of the projects in the near future, the Labour leader criticised the lack of planning for the projects.

That concern arose because of two planning blunders. The Government had assumed that workers for the synthetic fuels plant and the methanol plant would bring their houses with them.

It had also assumed that "they would melt away" as soon as the projects are finished.

Mr Lange said unemployment and housing were major problems in New Plymouth. "The fact is we are locked into a situation where even if the National Party promises second-generation energy projects in Taranaki there is a gap in the lead time for planning which means there is a break in the employment hopes of the people currently there."

Locked

"You, like the north (Maraden Point) are locked into declining job prospects in major projects with no real hard jobs being proposed.

"I pledge that after the election to work so that those people who have made their contribution can get re-engagement in productive jobs."

Potential existed for new investments and jobs in projects more heavily orientated on the traditional renewable assets of the land and the sea.

Value

The projects based on adding value to primary projects and raw materials wouldn't necessarily be big, but they would be job rich compared to the refinery or the methanol plant, where the cost per job ran into millions of dollars.

Under Labour the second generation projects would be undertaken only if they were commercially worthwhile, he said. They would have to provide cash and jobs, he said.

He repeated his pledge made earlier in the afternoon that there would be no quickfire solutions to the

unemployment problem under Labour.

Then, he said, a Labour government would not be able to promise instant relief.

"We want the job to be completed and we undertake to work on prospects for re-employment. But to promise otherwise would be unrealistic and dishonest."

The Labour leader also pledged that under a Labour government the procurement procedure would be reviewed for a higher New Zealand content in the projects. In government it would require that New Zealand was put first.

Expanding on that theme earlier in the day, Mr Lange had said a competitive margin should be built in so that making the structures in New Zealand gave the supplier an edge, not a big one, but an edge.

Turnout

Mr Lange received a standing ovation as he arrived and left for the meeting, and his audience was slightly larger than the turnout last week for the Prime Minister.

But although the crowd had been well primed by the local candidate, Ida Gaskin, Mr Lange's address lacked the spark of some earlier speeches.

Mr Lange also addressed the area of energy production. Labour would, he said, support commercially viable projects that further processed Taranaki's oil and gas.

Labour would continue to encourage onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration.

Loans Needed

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 10 Jul 84 p 6

[Text]

AUCKLAND, Today (PA). — Labour would borrow a further \$2 billion by March if it were elected to Government, party finance spokesman, Mr Roger Douglas, says.

He told an audience of 60 in his Manurewa electorate last night that the loans would be needed to avoid an "economic blow-out."

Mr Douglas accused the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Muldoon, of stimulating the economy in an unprecedented way.

Mr Douglas said the interest bill would be between \$300 million and \$350 million, the price the country would pay for the National Party's attempt to hold on to power.

It was the result of the balance of payments deficit. He said the country was spending overseas approaching \$2 billion more than it was earning.

"For his own desire to regain power, he has thrown the net value of Motunui out the window." Mr Douglas said the net earnings of Motunui would be used to pay the interest bill.

"In the past three weeks of the campaign, he has borrowed more than the Labour Government borrowed during its last term of office."

It had happened because the Prime Minister was trying to give a false impression of the state of the economy because it was election year.

Mr Douglas said Labour had a five-year plan of economic recovery. It would take two years before the first signs of recovery were visible.

Labour's policy objectives were employment, growth, price stability and an emphasis on reconciliation and consensus, Mr Douglas said.

He emphasised tourism, added value to raw materials such as wool and meat and growth of the small business sector through Development Finance Corporation investment.

The National Government had wasted investment on Think Big projects which did not provide an adequate return of jobs, growth or overseas earnings.

Mr Douglas said National put all new capital into energy-based projects because its minister, Mr Bill Birch, worked out strategy when no other minister had projects for his area.

"There should have been a balance. Hugh Templeton should have had projects for manufacturing, Rob Talbot for tourism, Duncan McIntyre for agriculture."

CSO: 4200/936

LEAKED DOCUMENTS INFER FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS, EEC BUTTER TRADE OFF

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 9 Jul 84 p 3

[Article by Peter Bale]

[Text]

The police have been asked to investigate the "unprecedented" leak of a Ministry of Foreign Affairs file on New Zealand's view of France's policies in the Pacific.

Yesterday's "New Zealand Times" carried excerpts from what the newspaper claimed was a ministry file marked "New Zealand Eyes Only." The newspaper alleged that a soft stance by New Zealand towards French nuclear testing in the Pacific helped secure the recent butter accord with the European Community.

[That butter agreement should see New Zealand receive access for guaranteed tonnages of butter for the next three years, with the following two years' tonnages to be set by negotiation.]

The "Post" understands that the apparent leak has shocked the ministry.

A leak of this type was "unprecedented," one Foreign Affairs official told the "Post." It would make information of any sort much more difficult to extract from the ministry, the official predicted.

The "New Zealand Times" quoted the file as saying that New Zealand had offered to take a "moderating influence" on the issue of New Caledonian independence. It quoted For-

eign Affairs assistant secretary Mr Tim Francis as writing in the file that restraint in criticising French policies in the Pacific had been linked to this country's concerns receiving similar consideration.

The link of French consideration of our problems with the nuclear testing issue is noted only once in quotes used by the "NZ Times" from the confidential file.

"Mr Cooper (the Minister of Foreign Affairs) had conveyed the message that New Zealand had been going out of its way to be helpful to the French because it felt they still had a role to play in the Pacific, and that New Zealand could support this by exercising a moderating influence on the issues of New Caledonian independence and nuclear testing," the "Times" quoted Mr Francis as saying in the file.

Mr Cooper described the newspaper's claim that a soft stance on testing had helped with the butter deal as a "horrendous lie." He said he would complain to the Press Council over the

report.

"I give a total and categorical denial to the claim by the "New Zealand Times" that we have traded New Zealand butter access in return for continuing bomb tests," the minister said in a statement last night.

"This scurrilous report is without foundation," said Mr Cooper.

The views in the file represented only the discussions of officials — not government policy, he said.

"I will use every negotiating tool possible to promote New Zealand interests, but to advance the theory that we would covertly support nuclear testing is a horrendous lie," he said.

"There never has been and never could be a trade-off between butter access and bomb tests," he said.

Lange

The "NZ Times" expose was also raised by Labour leader Mr David Lange in last night's televised leaders' debate.

Labour had consistently opposed nuclear testing and had succeeded in driv-

ing French nuclear testing underground, said Mr Lange.

"We are not making public noises against the French while giving them private assurances that we are not opposed to them, as this Government has done, as was revealed this morning by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs report," said Mr Lange.

Sir Robert interjected saying that Mr Lange, "really can't tell lies like that," and that the Labour leader's claims were not true and were a "deliberate lie."

"Let me correct the untruth," said Sir Robert. It was true New Zealand had offered to help the French in New Caledonia to try to find an acceptable resolution, he said. "It is a fact that each time I have spoken to President Mitterand or (French foreign minister) Claude Cheysson, I have told him that we vigorously oppose testing at Mururoa, and I have said that publicly and I have said that privately, and it is quite untrue for Mr Lange to suggest otherwise," said Sir Robert.

BRIEFS

PHOTO CAPTION ON ARMS ACT--Not the police's last resort in fighting crime in Lower Hutt but arms officer, Constable Elaine Tunnell, showing one of the more lethal weapons handed in to police in the current arms amnesty. It started last month and will run until the end of January next year. The Second World War Australian machinegun is in perfect working order and can fire 800 rounds a minute, with a range of 100 metres. The amnesty is being run in conjunction with Project Foresight--the licensing of arms' owners under the new Arms Act. Constable Tunnell says the main aim is to get the weapons out of circulation, not to prosecute people. Guns held illegally or unwanted ones can be surrendered to the police or an arms dealer with no questions asked and people do not have to give their names. [Text] [Photo caption] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 9 Jul 84 p 1]

CS0: 4200/936

EDITORIAL: OPM FUTURE UNCLEAR

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST COURIER in English 3 Jul 84 p 4

[Editorial: "The Future of the OPM"]

[Text]

IN the past four months OPM rebels have twice kidnapped people and attempted to win concessions for their release.

The Government has said no deals were made on either occasion.

If the release of Swiss pilot Werner Wyder in March and schoolteacher Damien Aiyu on Tuesday was unconditional — and there is no evidence to suggest otherwise — one wonders what the OPM was really up to.

Were the kidnappings aimed solely at international publicity for the OPM cause or the work of idealists whose convictions allowed them to go the brink but no farther? But, then, their convictions did propel them over the brink when several Indonesian soldiers were captured. They were killed.

Mr Henk Joku, the Port Moresby, resident spokesman for the move-

ment, doubts that the kidnapping of Mr Aiyu was carried out by "real" OPM troops. But, he said, if it was, James Nyaro would be dumped as leader.

Whatever the intentions of those responsible, one thing is clear: the border is a high-risk area for everyone.

It is also clear that the people of this country and the Government are going to have to come to grips with the realities of Irian Jaya and the future of the OPM.

The OPM is not going to wither of its own accord; Indonesia is not going to conduct a popularity poll in its legal province and leave if it loses; PNG is stuck with its heart on one side and its head on the border.

Like it or not, something has got to give.

CSO: 4200/929

OK TEDI MAY CLOSE FOR 18 MONTHS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 6 Jul 84 p 10

[Article by David Uren]

[Text]

The Papua New Guinea Ministry for Resources and Energy has confirmed that it is considering a ban on further gold mining at the Ok Tedi project until a full scale tailings dam is built, which could take 18 months.

A spokesman for the Minister, Mr Francis Pusal, said yesterday that the Government had been very reluctant to let the mine go ahead without a dam to store the mine waste.

It only gave permission because of the time factor involved. "Now after two very serious incidents involving sodium cyanide, the Government will be looking very closely at whether the mine can proceed with the interim tailings dam," he said.

He said the company had delayed notifying the Government about the spillage for 14 days. A spokesman for Ok Tedi said he could not comment on the reasons for the delay.

BHP and Amoco are the biggest partners in the Ok Tedi project which has so far cost \$1000 million.

According to the Member of Parliament for the Fly River Province, Mr Warren Dutton, the people responsible for the spillage at the mine site not only failed to tell the Government, but also failed to inform either the Ok Tedi management in Port Moresby or the company's own environment department.

"We haven't yet heard anything formal on the seriousness of the damage to the ecology but in my view, the greatest damage has been to the credibility of Ok Tedi because of the delay in telling the department about it. The Government put a lot of faith in the professionalism of Ok Tedi and this has pulled the pillars out from underneath it."

Mr Dutton said he doubted that the Government would ban gold production until a proper waste disposal system was installed and said he expected the enforced

shutdown to last for only a few weeks.

The PNG University's lecturer in biochemistry, Mr David Mowbray, who has advised the Government on the problems created by cyanide said yesterday that it was "a hit-and-run poison".

He said that as far as was known the chemical would have been broken down in the river after several days. He said the cyanide concentrations in the Ok Tedi river of 200 parts per billion were four times the lethal dose for fish and other water animals and that a large portion of the fish in the upper reaches of the river would have been killed.

While the poison should have mostly disappeared from the river by now, there was virtually no knowledge of the longer term effects of cyanide on the environment.

The PNG Government's investigations into the accident are looking not only at the effects of cyanide but also at the discharge of heavy metals along with waste materials into the river. Mr Mowbray said was the greatest threat to the life of the river system as heavy metals were a cumulative poison.

DELAY IN OK TEDI PRODUCTION EXPECTED

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST COURIER in English 3 Jul 84 p 3

[Text]

Full-scale gold and copper production from the Ok Tedi mine, Western Province, would be delayed by three to four years, the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee heard yesterday.

This was because of problems faced by Ok Tedi Mining Ltd, which include finding a suitable site for a hydro-power scheme for the mine, construction of a grinding plant for the copper and other minerals and a new permanent tailings dam.

The Minerals and Energy Department officials highlighted these problems at yesterday's public hearing before the committee went into camera to probe revenue raised by the company.

The officials, led by Department Secretary Mr Bill Pearson, told the committee that stage one of the Ok Tedi project, which was gold production, would also have to be delayed.

They said there were no solutions in sight and they were awaiting approval for more funds

to carry out further research on the project.

Committee member, Mr John Kaputin (Rabaul MP), had earlier asked if certain technical aspects on the construction of stage two, financial difficulties, political problems or a combination of the three were the reasons for the delay.

The officials said it was a combination of the three problems.

They said the Budget Priorities Committee had knocked back a submission for more funds for consultancy work had told the department to use funds from the department's other votes for the purpose.

The inquiry went into camera over the question of revenue raised in the mining operations.

The Finance Secretary, Mr John Vulupindi, said because the matter was "sensitive" the public and the press should not be present when the answers were given.

"It's like walking on a tight rope," he said.

"We don't believe in making statements that reflect on other shareholders."

BRIEFS

ISRAEL TO SUPPLY PLANES--The Government is to buy three Israeli-made Arava aircraft for the Defence Force at a total cost of about K9.7 million. Proceeds from the sale of its executive Grumman Gulfstream jet, Kumul 1, will be used as a deposit for the deal. An American firm, Robey-Smith Company, has bought the Kumul 1 for about K4 million and was to have taken delivery of it from Copenhagen this week. The Defence Secretary, Mr Balthazar Maketu, led a six-man team to assess the military version of the twin-prop Arava planes in Israel this week. Mr Maketu's team is expected back in Port Moresby tomorrow with its findings, which will be presented to the Government. It is understood the Prime Minister, Mr Somare, wanted the Arava planes purchased for the Defence Force as part of its reequipment program. [Text] [Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST COURIER in English 29 Jun 84 p 1]

CSO: 4200/929

COLLANTES ADDRESS BLAMES TECHNOCRATS FOR CRISIS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Jul 84 pp 1, 7

[Article by Isidro M. Roman]

[Text] The present economic crisis was blamed yesterday on the government's economic managers who "cosmetize the economic deterioration by attributing to 'external' factors or with fantastic claims of deliverance."

Assemblyman Manuel Collantes (KBL) of Batangas said yesterday in a speech before the Philippine Columbian Association that "there is evidence to suggest that while government technocrats caused the Philippines' balance-of-payments crisis in 1970, it was also policy blunders that forced the two devaluations in 1983 leading to the present crisis."

He said mismanagement made matters worse than what might have been the case had the government economic managers been adequately equipped to cope with the deteriorating economic conditions.

"The lack of experience of the technocrats in the real world of economic management is the principal cause of the crisis and their perspective on national economic development issues must have been confined to the 'Keynesian philosophy', which was popular during the 1960s when the technocrats were taking up graduate studies in the US," Collantes added.

The Batangas lawmaker pointed out that the resources that should have gone into the expansion of agricultural production to create jobs in the countryside, raise productivity, and income, went instead into a "hodgepodge" of industrial projects and massive infrastructure program without improving communications.

He said the technocrats overlooked that unless the funds borrowed abroad were kept in step with domestic production of goods and services, "such heavy capital inflow was just like printing money."

The failure to contain smuggling and massive overpricing of infrastructure projects added pressure that eventually "suffocated the Philippine economy," Collantes said.

He said that capital flight intensified through overpricing of imports, salting of dollars, and financing of smuggled goods were clear and urgent symptoms of a major economic disaster.

Collantes said although the killing of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr. triggered the events that forced the Oct. 5 devaluation, bringing in the worst economic crisis in the country's postwar history, the Aquino assassination could not have been so decisive if the economy was on a sounder footing.

Had the government economic managers chosen the correct options for the nation economic development, or simply avoided the pitfalls encountered by their predecessors, the country could have avoided asking the IMF for help, he said.

To make matters worse, Collantes said, numerous business failures occurred and the government made a mistake by bailing out distressed industries.

"Whether the distressed industries could still be saved or were worth saving, the technocrats didn't seem to appreciate that many distressed industries had no more prospect of becoming competitive and that to allow them to continue in business would further dissipate investment funds and waste foreign exchange," Collantes added.

CSO: 4200/930

OBSERVERS QUESTION ROLE OF PARTICIPANT AT BATASAN MEETING

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Jul 84 p 6

[Article by Orlando F. Aquino: "Disturbing Developments"]

[Text]

A photograph appearing in the *Bulletin Today* last Friday about a meeting of the majority and minority members of the Batasang Pambansa's rules committee has stirred the proverbial hornet's nest because of the presence of somebody who, according to our information, has no business being there.

Persons keeping a close tab of political developments in Antique — particularly because of a pre-election ambush which hit the newspaper headlines — wrote to protest the inclusion of Arturo Pacificador in the majority panel because, they said, the Supreme Court had annulled his proclamation and his case is pending decision in the Commission on Elections (Comelec). "As far as we know, that decision still stands, so what right does he have to sit in that meeting?"

they said.

"Should not the Supreme Court hold this man in contempt for pretending to be an assemblyman?" they continued. "To add insult to injury, both majority and minority assemblymen seem to have smilingly accepted Pacificador into their ranks."

To further show their perplexity, they again asked: "Does he know something we do not know? Has there been some secret and speedy proclamation again?"

To our mind, that could be the only logical explanation — assuming, of course, that he has been duly accredited as a member of the Batasan. In which case, how come nobody had any inkling of a subsequent proclamation? A story of such importance could not have escaped the notice of reporters covering the Comelec. Or could it?

CSO: 4200/917

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ANNOUNCES FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Jul 84 p 24

[Text]

LEGAZPI CITY — The Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) will pursue a five-year development program aimed at achieving optimum agricultural productivity.

This was disclosed here last Saturday by Agriculture and Food Minister Salvador H. Escudero III in a speech read for him by Agriculture Deputy Minister Domingo F. Panganiban during the launching of the annual search for the outstanding farmers of the year (OFY).

The OFY search is jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Philippine Jaycees.

Escudero said that in "looking up to agriculture as our salvation, it is only fitting and proper that we give recognition to the small farmers who toil quietly to feed our nation."

To increase production, Escudero said, the government has adopted the following measures:

- Increase the support prices of major crops such as rice and corn. Sugar prices have also been increased.

- Increase the prices of pork and poultry products to relieve livestock and poultry producers from cost price squeeze.

- Domestic trading of sugar has been deregulated.

He said the government has announced its intention to relinquish its role in rice exportation. Private sector can now export yellow corn from designated export zones, he said.

The new agriculture minister is urging farmers to shift from irrigated to rainfed farming because "almost 60 percent of rice hectarage is rainfed."

"It is in rainfed farms where there's potential for greater productivity and increasing farm incomes," he said.

For example, Escudero cited the success of Iloilo's

rainfed agriculture known as Kabaoka where an average of 3.5 tons of rice is harvested per hectare during the first cropping season, and an average of 70 cavans per hectare is harvested during the second cropping season. During the third cropping season, the farmers cultivate mungo, peanuts, sorghum and watermelon to augment their income, he added.

In addition to these measures, the expanded Ministry will strengthen and streamline the rice procurement and price support programs of the National Food Authority (NFA).

Escudero also said that increased production of yellow corn is necessary in the face of mounting demands for feeds from the livestock and poultry industries.

While the country continues to be self-sufficient in pork and poultry, Escudero said that we still import 90 percent of our dairy needs. To partially solve this, he said

he will continue with "bakahan sa barangay" which covers 68 provinces with P934 million in loans to 203,000 farmers as recipients. The "kambingan sa barangay" now covers 63 provinces, he said.

The enlarged agriculture ministry which has absorbed the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) will seek to provide credit facilities to buy motorized bancas and fish nets to 600,000 subsistence fishermen all over the country.

To boost our agri-based economy, Escudero has suggested product diversification, marketing by cooperatives, and import substitution.

During the launching of the OFY, the memorandum of agreement was signed by Deputy Minister Panganiban for the MAF and President Ramon "Dondon" Bagatsing, Jr. of the Philippine Jaycees. F.P. Narito, NMPC.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES BYPASSED IN MILITARY APPOINTMENT

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 10 Jul 84 p 2

[Commentary by Bert Tesorero in the "Point at Issue" column: "The Omen"]

[Text]

There is sign of strong political undercurrent in the replacement of Constabulary provincial command in Davao Oriental that might yet spark a major public issue between the local government officials and the military sector in that area if not promptly settled by higher military authorities. The impending controversy stemmed from the assignment of PC Major Salvador Daang to Davao's eastern provincial command in place of Lt. Col. Renato Paredes who had been called to attend the command staff school in Metro Manila.

...

The sign was even made evident when Recon XI chief Brig. Gen. Jun Tan-Gatue and his regional staff flew to Mati to deliver the replacement order of the President which was read in public during a simple turn-over ceremony at the PC compound last Saturday July 7, 1984. Surprisingly, indeed, the ceremony was attended mainly by men in uniform and not one provincial or municipal official of Davao Oriental came to witness the affair. As one Mati correspondent told this column, the shindig was purely a Red & Khaki party.

...

Even Recon XI chief Brig. Gen. Tan-Gatue was quoted by Mati correspondents to have struck an apologetic note in a speech during the turn-over ceremonies, that he had nothing to do with the change of constabulary command in Davao Oriental and at the same time stressing that he was merely following the orders of the President. Local political dopesters immediately attached significance to the statement of Brig. Gen. Tan-Gatue, speculating that somebody very influential in Manila must have been interfering with the military in the assignment of PC commanders in Davao Oriental, whether the local constabulary chief is acceptable to the local residents or not.

...

But why would the provincial and municipal officials of Davao Oriental snub or boycott a traditional military turn-over ceremony, if true that none of them attended to witness the affair? Reports circulating around the capital town of Mati are to the effect that Governor Paking Rabat and the municipal mayors of Davao's eastern province are contemplating to bolt the KBL if the military authorities insist on assigning Major Daang as provincial commander

of that area. True or not, the report is certainly serious! But why?

...

Sources close to the governor's office reveal that Major Daang, then assistant provincial commander for Davao del Sur, was seen a couple of times or more in the headquarters of defeated Batasan candidate Polding Lopez at the height of the campaign in Davao Oriental. The same source did not say whether or not Major Daang was openly politicking in favor of Batasan candidate Polding Lopez but he was seen allegedly cavorting with other AFP officers including those assigned with the so-called 'Lost Command' who were publicly known to have thrown their support to Lopez against Assemblywoman Edith Nakpil-Rabat, wife of Governor Rabat.

...

The presence of Major Daang in Davao Oriental way off his

jurisdiction and seen in the headquarters of a contending Batasan candidate during the height of the electoral campaign, if at all the report is true, needs a lot of explanation. And Governor Rabat including his municipal mayors may have good reason to oppose the assignment of Major Daang in Davao Oriental with such vehemence as to threaten to bolt the majority party if the military persists in the assignment of Major Daang to Davao's eastern provincial command.

...

Comes now the test of civilian supremacy over the military, as President Marcos oft-repeatedly enunciated. If the high military echelon finds out that the opposition of Governor Rabat over the assignment of Major Daang in Davao Oriental valid, will the uniformed authorities continue to stick on the assignment of Daang as a matter of policy? That is the question!

CSO: 4200/930

SOME 150 REBELS RAID SAMAR TOWN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Jul 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] TACLOBAN CITY (PNA)--Some 150 heavily armed rebels swooped down on a sleeping town at dawn Monday, killed four defenders, including a police commander, wounded an undetermined number of civilians, and looted the armory of the police force.

The attack lasted five hours.

Believed to be members of the New People's Army (NPA), the attackers staged the dawn raid on the town of MacArthur, Eastern Samar.

The outnumbered police and Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF) volunteers initially put up a firm resistance but were outnumbered by the better armed dissidents.

A sketchy field report reaching the PC/INP Recon 8 headquarters here identified one of the four fatalities as police Sgt. Tirso de Ocampo, commander of the MacArthur police station.

He was executed by the marauders, after he and some of his men surrendered.

The NPA rebels also shot down another police officer and two (CHDF) members during the firefight. The names of the three fatalities and the scores of wounded civilians were not immediately known.

The report said that the attack started at 1:30 a.m.

After killing the police commander, the rebels herded the other policemen inside the MacArthur municipal jail and carted away an undetermined number of light and heavy firearms of the town police force, including hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

The NPAs left the town at 4:30 a.m. and fled towards the nearby heavy forested mountains.

Brig. Gen. Cesar Villarin, RUC-8 commander, immediately dispatched teams of PC Rangers to track down the raiders.

CSO: 4200/930

MASIAO CRACKDOWN ALLEGES 'COMMUNIST LINKS'

PC Chief on Hand

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 9-15 Jul 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] STA. CRUZ, Laguna, July 7 (PNA)—A gambling syndicate with communist links in Mindanao was busted Tuesday with the arrest of 60 persons in Davao City, Constabulary Chief Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos said today.

He identified one of those nabbed as Pete Batu, the suspected gambling operator.

Ramos was here to preside over a conference among ranking Constabulary officials to map out ways to combat illegal gambling in the country.

Batu operates the largest masiao joint in the south. He employed 300 "runners" and coordinators.

Brig. Gen. Dionisio Tan-gatue Jr., Constabulary's south eastern Mindanao regional commander has recommended the issuance of a preventive detention action (PDA) against Batu, Ramos said.

He said he has created a committee to study appropriate measures in the campaign to stop this illegal gambling activity.

Marcos Issues PDA

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 10 Jul 84 pp 1, 5

[Text] PC/INP RECOM II sources said yesterday that Presidential Detention Action (PDA) has been issued for the continued detention of Jose "Pete" Batu, alleged "masiao lord" who has been arrested by PC/INP authorities following a raid at Buhangin, Davao City last Wednesday, July 4.

The arrest of Batu is part of the PC/INP RECOM II sustained crackdown on financiers, operators and coordinators of masiao syndicates. The crackdown has been going on all over the region.

The arrest of Batu was followed by a sweeping predawn raid on a masiao printing press at N. Torres St., Barrio Obrero, Davao City, last Saturday, July 7. The raid netted no fewer than 21 persons involved in "masiao" who were arrested and detained.

Confiscated by a combined PC/INP team in the latest raid were printing gadgets, voluminous tips, tally sheets, stubs and other masiao paraphernalia. Significantly, subversive documents were also seized during the raid in the same printing press.

Meanwhile, Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Tan-Gatue, Jr., RECOM II Commander, issued a warning that intensified operations against Masiao and other forms of illegal gambling in the region will go on. He said those involved in Masiao and other forms of illegal gambling should desist operations otherwise the same action will be taken against them.

In a separate development, RECOM II also announced that simple ceremonies will be held today (July 10), starting 9:00 a.m. at the Davao Metrodiscom in connection with the arrival here of the Marines Augmentation Force. This was the result of an agreement between Gen. Tan-Gatue, Jr. and Col. Rodolfo Biason, Philippine Marines Commander for the marines to provide support for law-enforcement here.

High Command Takes Over Case

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 10 Jul 84 pp 1, 7

[Text] Davao Metrodiscom commander Col. Geronimo Valderrama yesterday refused to discuss the case of alleged masiao financier, Jose "Pete" Batu, who is still in the PC/INP stockade despite a Court order for his immediate release handed down last Friday.

"Officers from the Judge Advocate General's Office (JAGO) in Camp Crame and the Region XI PC/INP command are presently handling the Batu case," Valderrama informed the MIRROR.

Batu was taken to the Metrodiscom headquarters last July 4 from his residence in Buhangin, this city, by Maj. Amparo Cabigas for interrogation. The suspect, however, was subsequently placed in the stockade on orders of Col. Valderrama, and has remained there since then.

Col. Benito Custodio, JAGO officer from Camp Crame, arrived yesterday to assist the Davao Metrodiscom prosecute the case. The drive against local syndicates involved in illegal gambling is only part of the nationwide campaign against such activities, some of which are reportedly financing subversive groups.

"I am leaving the case against Batu with the JAGO officers and the Court," Valderrama said. "As much as possible I want to comply with the provisions of

the law, and I hope that human rights groups and lawyers will support me in this. After all illegal gambling is a form of economic sabotage. I personally know that masiao operators are giving aid to the enemy by donation of rice and dried fish."

Queried about the physical condition of Jose "Pete" Batu, who was reportedly operated on for kidney ailment recently, Valderrama replied that a military doctor, Capt. Ejercito, has been attending to the detainee for humanitarian reasons. "But Capt. Ejercito has reported that Batu's operation wound has completely healed and that Batu is in good health."

The detention of Batu promises to become a "cause celebre" in the wake of his continued detention Action order for Batu's RTC Judge Jose R. Bandalan for his release after hearing a petition for issuance of a "writ for habeas corpus" filed by Batu's wife July 5.

PC/INP sources, however, disclosed that a Presidential Detention Action order for Batu's arrest and incarceration had been issued by President Marcos. At any rate, the Court's order could not be implemented by the Davao Metrodiscom in the absence of Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Tan-Gatue, Jr., Recon XI commander who is in Manila as of this writing. The General is the only officer in his command who is authorized to carry out the Court's order, a military source said yesterday.

Following Batu's arrest the PC/INP raided a residence in Barrio Obrero, this city, July 7, and confiscated masiao paraphernalia, such as printing gadgets, voluminous "tips", tally sheets, stubs and the like.

Before his departure for Manila over the weekend Gen. Tan-Gatue issued a statement that the campaign against masiao and other illegal gambling activities in the region will be pursued with vigor.

CSO: 4200/930

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC CRISIS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Jul 84 p 32

[Text]

The Civil Liberties Union (CLU) issued yesterday the following statement signed by its chairman, Renato Constantino, and Commissioners Sedfrey Ordoñez and Luis Mauricio:

"The confrontation between the opposition and the administration seems to be taking place in a very constricted area. The solution of the national crisis has been narrowed down by the administration to productivity while the opposition tries to warn the people that proposals for a nationwide marketing network may only result in the dissipation of resources through graft and corruption.

"The opposition spokesmen have continually harped on corruption, inefficiency, crony capitalism, and salting of dollars by administration favorites. While all these are valid criticisms, there appears to be a conscious omission of the role of foreign corporations in the dollar drain. No mention is made of transfer pricing, of remittances of profits, fees and royalties, of the misallocation of resources to export industries which are import-dependent and controlled by TNCs. The dollar drain caused by debt service to international banks is not emphasized. The national marketing network is not seen as

the infrastructure to facilitate the operations of international agribusiness, and the Balanced Agro-Industrial Development Program of the Marcos-Virata administration is not viewed as part of export-orientation under the auspices of foreign agribusiness.

"Indeed, if the opposition persists in smothering its criticism within the parameters of the IMF-WB development scheme, it will only be operating with the administration in downplaying the role of foreign investors and bankers in the present crisis. Foreign capital will continue to dominate the economy while Filipinos quarrel over the crumbs.

"The opposition assemblymen will deserve the protest votes that elected them only if they courageously expose the real costs of the present crisis and the role of the Marcos-Virata government in making the country safe for international capital."

CSO: 4200/930

SIN AIRS FEARS ON MARTIAL LAW RESUMPTION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Jul 84 pp 1, 7

[Text]

Jaime Cardinal Sin, archbishop of Manila, appealed yesterday to President Marcos not to reimpose martial law in the country.

"I have devoted a lot of thought — and spent many hours on my knees in prayer — about this matter of a second martial law, and I hope it does not come. I do not mind telling you that I regard it with fear and trembling," the 55-year-old Roman Catholic archbishop of Manila said.

He said he is begging Marcos not to resort to the move.

Sin, a frequent Marcos critic and regarded as the most influential churchman in the country, spoke at a luncheon with insurance executives, who gave him a standing ovation.

Sin also said he knew nothing about published reports that Conrado Balweg, a Roman Catholic priest who joined communist rebels in 1979, has been captured by the gov-

ernment.

Marcos last week rejected about a possible declaration of martial law again, saying conditions for such drastic action do not exist.

"If martial law is reimposed," Sin said, "the people will not accept it in the same docile spirit that they did in 1972. . . It would mean that the whole martial law apparatus would have to be more repressive."

The cardinal said he had been told, rightly or wrongly, that it is some presidential advisers who want martial law returned because the wealth and power they have gained are being threatened, but that Marcos is resisting the advice.

"But how long can he hold out?" Sin asked (AP)

AUSTRALIAN ENVOY GRANTS AID TO BOHOL

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Jul 84 p 3

[Article by Z. Dejaresco Jr.]

[Text]

TAGBILARAN CITY — Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Roy Fernandes will arrive here Friday to finalize the Australian government's grant to the province of Bohol for a cattle dispersal program valued at \$880,000.

Gov. Rolando Butalid recently confirmed the grant consisting of the shipment here of some 1,200 head of Brahman cattle. The grant also includes some technical inputs to boost the livestock proportion and dispersal program of the province.

The Australian ambassador will also visit the anti-respiratory infection research project which is being undertaken jointly by the Philippine and Australian governments.

The latter agreed to donate P2,816,000 for the construction of a medical research facility in Binal

which will help control acute respiratory infections in the rural areas.

The Bohol project is part of the national ARI project which is now being jointly implemented by the Ministry of Health, the National Science and Technology Authority, and the University of the Philippines Health Service Center, which is also being supported by the World Health Organization.

Dr. Victoria G. Labado, OIC of the Gov. Gallares Memorial Hospital, invited Ambassador Fernandes to visit the laboratory of the Australian government-assisted ARI project in Bohol.

Hospital authorities adopted a resolution seeking more medical equipment which the hospital needs for serious cases which are now being referred to Cebu.

CSO: 4200/930

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES \$1.6 BILLION IN FOREIGN LOANS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Jul 84 p 9

[Text]

Government financial institutions guaranteed a total of \$1.6 billion in foreign loans of private companies, including about \$300 million which was extended by Philippine Guarantee Insurance Corporation to Filipino companies with overseas construction contracts.

This was gleaned from the report of the Central Bank on its comprehensive survey of foreign exchange liabilities made as part of its effort to formulate a revised financial plan for the Philippines.

A total of \$1.3 billion of foreign debt by the private sector was unguaranteed.

The rest of the guarantees were provided by Philippine National Bank and its subsidiary, National Investment and Development Corporation, and Development Bank of the Philippines.

The companies with foreign debt guaranteed by the PNB and the DBP are engaged in mining, sugar, cement, coconut oil milling, and shipping.

About \$713 million of the guaranteed private sector debt was classified as "contingent liabilities" since they were extended on obligations with maturities of less than one year.

The balance were guarantees extended on foreign debt with maturities of more than one year.

To the extent that the private firm-borrower cannot pay its foreign obligations, the debt will have to be shouldered by the guarantor.

The biggest foreign debt guaranteed by the public sector was that of Marinduque Mining and Industrial Corporation.

About \$400 million of its foreign debt is guaranteed by the DBP and the PNB.

COLUMNIST ANALYZES, MINIMIZES NPA THREAT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Jul 84 p 6

[Article by Apolonia Batalla: "The Insurgent Threat"]

[Text]

DEFENSE Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said last week that the rebels had killed 1,614 innocent civilians in 18 months since January, 1983. But there is no way of checking the figure.

Nonetheless, it is common knowledge that many civilians have been slain by rebels. They include people suspected of being government informers, security guards and plantation workers, suspected cattle thieves, and people who for some reason refuse to give money to the insurgents.

Insurgents do not try suspects or give them the benefits of "due process of law." Summary executions are in the nature of the movement, since if a trial is held the defendant will be able to identify his captors and know the location of their hide-out. That may be disastrous to the rebels if later on the defendant is released for lack of evidence.

In contrast, it is in the nature of the military establishment to arrest, detain, and file charges against people suspected of being rebels. The expectations, which are invariably complained against, do not change the rule.

It is in the nature of the society to abhor violence and terrorism. That is the reason rebel ranks increase but slowly, if they do at all.

It is said, even by some military authorities, that in some parts of the country, armed dissidents are winning the hearts and minds of the people. A clear evidence of that would be the rebel manpower strength. If large groups of dissidents could hold a town or attack military headquarters, it would mean the rebels are winning the hearts and minds of the people.

To date, there is scant evidence of large-sized groups in any one camp.

The situation has not developed to the point where the movement would be strong enough and bold enough to hold out in large groups and claim control of a piece of territory.

Such a situation obtains in El Salvador and existed in Nicaragua during the Somoza regime.

The present insurgency here started early in the 1970s, but until now the non-MNLF rebels have not been able to muster large groups even in the remotest areas even if it is true that the government has not been able to eliminate the problem through the years.

One disadvantage being suffered by the rebels is their insistence on ideology. One has to have the ideology to stay on in the movement and accept its difficulties. Most Filipinos are not ideologues, much less com-

munist ideologues.

Past insurgencies that gained size and strength relied on easily understood causes.

Thus, the MNLF succeeded in enlisting a great many men who were ready to lay down their lives because it told the people in the south that they would be liquidated by the Christians.

For the peasants of Central Luzon, the rallying cry was the oppression by the landlords.

In those two cases, the causes were confined to the territories where they were most felt.

That distinguishes those two cases from the present NPA effort.

The distinction between rebels and rebel sympathizers should always be borne in mind. The sympathizers do not bear arms nor are they part of the conspiracy. Most are sympathizers because they are friends or relatives of rebels. Oftentimes, they are hostage to the threats of the environment.

It is difficult to convert a sympathizer into an insurgent. If it had been easy, there would already have been a civil war in this country.

Some military authorities seem to inflate the size of the rebel movement. For what reason we do not know. But even as they do that, very few have moved over to the side of the insurgents.

CSO: 4200/917

SIN DEFENSE OF FR BALWEG SAID AMBIVALENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 4 Jun 84 p 4

[Commentary by Armando J. Malay in the "Please Pass the Salt" column:
"Cardinal on Balweg"]

[Text] At the last Philippine Ambassadors Association luncheon-forum (May 29) I happened to ask the first question of the guest speaker, Cardinal Sin. "What do you think of Father Balweg and other priests and nuns who are fighting in the mountains?" I asked.

Cardinal Sin: "They are in the mountains and they are there because the politicians have abandoned their constituencies in the mountains. When some people need your services, won't you give your services to them, regardless of whether they are NPAs or Communists?"

The cardinal went to say that from what he has read (no fewer than three interviews with Father Balweg have been published lately), "Father Balweg suffered from some kind of a trauma. I think his family--he's an SVD and a Tingguian--lost their ancestral land and to a Tingguian his ancestral land is very precious to him, it's all that he has got."

In the course of his answer to my question, Cardinal Sin said of Father Balweg, "I don't agree with his theology," but gave no room for doubt that he (the cardinal) was all for the priest's work among his people. I had no occasion to ask during the open forum why the cardinal did not "agree with his (Balweg's) theology," but when we were about to take the elevator on our way out, I asked the cardinal why he didn't agree with Father Balweg's theology. Here was his answer:

"When he advocates or resorts to violence, I don't agree. Violence is never justified, except when done in self-defense. Isn't it said that one should forgive one's enemies?" In effect, what the cardinal is saying is, if Father Balweg and his group take the initiative and go on an offensive operation, it's wrong, but when he and his men fight back in self defense, then it is justifiable, and should not be condemned. A fine distinction, at best. In a mountainous region like Abra, Kalinga, Apayao, it's difficult to distinguish when you are advancing or retreating during a fire fight.

My own feeling is that Father Balweg couldn't care a fig whether Cardinal Sin approves or disapproves of what he (Balweg) is doing. Many times Father Balweg has criticized the cardinal for ambivalent statements—a view shared by many other people.

"Let's pray for President Marcos," Cardinal Sin said during the open forum. A thundering silence met his exhortation. And I think I know why.

CSO: 4200/917

COLUMNIST SEES BENEDICTO ECLIPSE IN 14 MAY POLL RESULT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 8 Jun 84 pp 5, 6

[News Analysis by Ernesto R. Rodriguez, Jr in the "Politics & Politicos" column: "Benedicto Is No Longer Western Visayas' Kingfish"]

[Text] For many years, for more than a decade actually, his was the Master's Voice in all of Western Visayas. All roads led to his house, or wherever he happened to be at a certain time. In the political, economic and even sports life of the people, he called the shots. He was in command of everything.; upon his arrival at any airport, crowds would mob him and kiss his cheeks, and all that was missed was a 19-gun salute; his every word was listened to with rapt attention, like it were God's own utterance. Because he was the President's classmate and crony, he was in truth also his surrogate in all matters where the exercise of absolute power was involved. Indeed, the Kingfish of Western Visayas was a man to reckon with.

Roberto Salas Benedicto, for that is his name, hails from Bago City, one of Negros island's 9 cities. And this burg, some 20 odd miles south of Bacolod, the provincial capital, has given birth to a number of the nation's power elite: Jose Yulo, Jorge B. Vargas, Don Jorge Araneta, Rafael M. Salas, Ruperto Montinola, Rafael R. Alunan, J. Amado Arenata et al.

RSB, a.k.a. Nonoy, Bobby, and lately, "Harassbe," is today Bago's undisputed No. 1--if not favorite--son. After all, he is the owner of several banks (including one in US), newspapers, Broadcast City, the Visayan Maritime Academy, Celebrity Sports Plaza, gambling casinos, hotels, haciendas, etc.; he is chairman of the Philippine Sugar Commission and president of the National Sugar Trading Corporation; he is also member of the UP Board of Regents and treasurer of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan. He has many other interests but why tire the reader? It is said that nothing moved in his part of the country without his say-so.

In the 1978 elections for the Batasang Pambansa, he handpicked all the 15 candidates for Region 6, and they all won handily. That is why, for a time, he appeared to be the logical choice for Mr Marcos's running mate in 1987.

But all that is past history now. At least, insofar as power-wielding is concerned. For, in the last May 14 elections for the regular Batasang Pambansa, when the returns came in, lo and behold, not one of his fair-haired boys had won in all of Western Visayas! The man for whom President Marcos had once campaigned for and made win as president of the UP Student Council (see *The Marcos Wit*, p 14) had, unexpectedly, become 1984's most discredited political power broker. Like his law school classmate who had expected so much too, he must have been shocked by his constituents' intractability.

When RSB proclaimed his candidates in Negros Occidental several months ago, he dismissed the Opposition as nothing but a collection of chatterboxes ("tikal lang nga tikal"). Now, he is quiet as a clam. He doesn't know what hit him!

Not one of the 17 winners in the May 14 sweepstakes belonged to RSB's stable. In Iloilo, only two KBL candidates made it, Assemblymen Narciso D. Montfort and Salvador B. Britanico, and they were the personal choices of Mr Marcos, imposed on the locals. Emilio M. ("Toto") de la Cruz III and Oton Mayor Lazaro M. ("Nene") Zulueta, RSB's favorites lost badly, as also did Niel D. Tupaz. Winners: Unido's Assemblyman Fermin Z. ("Nene") Caram, Jr., RSB's favorite anathema who topped the list of winners; Unido's Arthur D. Defensor, IBP vice president for western Visayas; and ex-Gov Rafael P. ("Nono") Palmares, independent. Former Vice President Lopez must get most of the credit here for demolishing the KBL.

In Aklan, Banga Mayor Sergio Rigodon, who had been chosen in place of publicity hound Jose T. Tumbokon, was soundly defeated by Unido's Rafael Legaspi, an ex-congressman member of the Makato Legaspi clan.

In Capiz, Unido's Enrique Belo, of the once-powerful Belo family, sprang a surprise by beating Garbriel Villareal, son of ex-Speaker Cornelio T. Villareal and brother of Gov Cornelio Villareal, Jr. Other winner was KBL's Charles Escolin, son of Supreme Court Justice Venicio Escolin, the First Lady's cousin.

In Antique, KBL's Assemblyman Arturo Pacificador is fighting for political life in a still unresolved race, in which challenger oppositionist ex-Gov Evelio B. Javier is expected to carry the day. The massacre at Sibalom is continuing to make the headlines.

It was, however, in Negros Occidental, RSB's home turf, where the bubble truly burst. Of the 7 KBL candidates for the Batasan, only five won, and not one of them was a man of Ambassador Benedicto. Three of the lucky five are known as the candidates of ex-Rep. Armando Cuaycong ("Armin") Gustilo, namely Alfredo G. Marañon, Jr., Jaime Garcia Golez, and Assemblyman Jose Yulo Va-

rela, Jr. The other two, Roberto Locsin ("Bobby") Montelibano and Roberto Alvarez ("Bob") Gatuslao, are men of Gov. Alfredo L. Montelibano, Jr. Bobby Montelibano is the governor's brother. Two other KBL standard bearers, Assemblyman Teodoro U. ("Teddy") Benedicto, RSB's family namesake and brother of RSB's Bacolod Republic Planters Bank's manager Tony, and Assemblyman

Alfonso A. Garcia, lost. Lawyer Wilson P. Gamboa, Unido's fighting chieftain in the sugar province, won, as also did independent Antonio Montinola Gatuslao, son of the late Rep. Agustin Monton Gatuslao.

If the elections in Negros had been completely clean and honest, at least three other Unido candidates would have made it, namely lawyer

Amado A. ("Kimache") Parrero, Jr., son of a well-known opposition leader of a bygone era: Mrs. Hortensia Laguda-Starkie and Mrs. Corazon Segovia-Zayco, the two gutsy women sugar planters who have made life miserable for the Philsocom chairman during the last five years. It was the last two who were naturally the targets of RSB's ire and all the forces of the Establishment were concentrated on their elimination from the local political scene.

From what I gathered during my one week's stay in Negros, from March 26-June 2, it was an election that was remarkable for all forms of chicanery and legerdemain in the art of frustrating the popular will. Money flowed freely and this was more obvious in Negros because it is the home province of the KBL treasurer. The lights were mysteriously put out in most parts of the province during the early part of the counting of votes. In the known strongholds of the Administration's political sachems, votes multiplied, and the Unido candidates were swamped with impunity. In at least 9 towns and three cities, cheating was

rampant and there was no way for a fragmented and unorganized opposition to stem the tide of fraudulent voting. It is reported that in the newly-created municipality of Don Salvador Benedicto (named after RSB's father), there were much more votes than there were inhabitants on election day.

But what must have assured the election of the KBL "elected" winners was the boycott movement. Next to Manila, it was probably in Negros Occidental where the boycott was really well organized and militant. Some 30,000 boycotters stayed home on May 14 and they provided the winning margin for the "winners."

In Cadiz City, Escalante, La Carlota, Bago, Cauayan, Manapla, Himamaylan, Pulpandan, Calatrava, everything was done to offset the Opposition's tidal wave of protest vote. The slaughter of 9 young men in Inayawan, Cauayan, must be deplored.

In a few places, the Opposition could not be denied, the odds notwithstanding. In my hometown, Himamaylan,

for example, the longtime mayor, Jose Monton ("Nanding") Gatulao, did his best to intimidate the supporters of his own nephew Tony, in order to make sure that his own son Bob would be No. 1 in the municipality. He said the people could vote for anyone but his nephew. What happened? Tony topped his own son in the balloting, and his much vaunted leadership crumbled like a house of sand.

In the recent past, thousands of Negros voters were herded into box cars and made to vote the way their bosses wanted them to vote. Now, they are no longer willing to sell their birthright for a meal of pottage.

Less than two years from now, there will be another election and this time it will be for provincial and municipal officials. It will be a day of reckoning for all those who made a farce of democratic processes in their respective municipalities and provinces last May 14.

Ambassador Roberto S. Benedicto must now know that there is an end to everything, even to power.

AFP MAY COMMISSION EDITORS TO AID INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Jul 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by E. Tulfo]

[Text] Mass media editors may soon find themselves commissioned by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) with reserve officer status to boost the information campaign of the government, even as hundreds of other reserve officers are still waiting for their "call to active duty" in the AFP.

This was disclosed by reliable sources in Camp Aguinaldo who requested anonymity.

Sources told Malaya a plan to commission media chiefs is now being studied by the Civil Relations Service of the AFP, and the Office of the Media Affairs. It will later be endorsed to Gen. Fabian Ver, AFP Chief of Staff before submission to the President for approval.

The same sources said editors--and even publishers--commissioned by the military will have to undergo several months of training, before being assigned to different public information offices in the military.

Sources added that once a medianan is commissioned as reserve officer, he will fill in the ranks from 2nd Lt to Lt. Colonel even though he lacks units in their Citizen's Military Training, which is part of the college curriculum.

Sources explained that these editors will be "very useful" in the AFP, as they will be assigned to information offices support the information drive to the military and the government.

The same sources said, however that no definite time has yet been set as to when the plan will take effect, but added that Information Minister Gregorio Cendana and CRS Chief Brig. Gen. Pacifico Lopez De Leon already met about the matter last week.

CSO: 4200/924

CEBU DAILY, OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS OF AFP CORDILLERA OPERATIONS DIFFER

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 9 Jul 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ruben G. Alabastro]

[Text] BONTOC, Philippines (AP)--Government troops backed by helicopters and bomber planes have launched an offensive against more than 600 communist guerrillas, including a fugitive Roman catholic priest, in the mountains of the northern Philippines, the military said Saturday.

Church sources with contacts in villages in the Cordillera mountains said the government suffered eight dead and the rebels one wounded in four clashes in Kalinga province last week. But in Manila, armed forces chief Gen. Fabian Ver claimed his men killed at least 51 rebels and lost only one dead between June 27 and July 1.

The military operation, which began two weeks ago, is centered on the border between Kalinga and mountain province, in the heart of the Cordilleras some 185 miles (296 km) north of Manila.

The object of the operation, into which the government has thrown more than 3,000 soldiers, is about 500 New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas operating on the Kalinga side of the border and more than 100 others in mountain province.

"We can't hide it," Mountain Province Commander Lt. Col. Leon Badival told the Associated Press. "It's true that military operations are going on right now."

Badival denied published reports that the rebels shot down a helicopter June 25, saying the aircraft developed engine trouble while flying fuel and food to soldiers on the front and crashed at the foot of a hill just outside this provincial capital. Two officers and five crewmen were injured.

Villagers and military officers in the field said three T-28 World War II trainer planes converted into bombers and two helicopters bombed and strafed suspected rebel positions in the mountains around Kalinga's Tinglayan town on June 28 and again last Wednesday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

Marines pursuing rebels in the area captured a guerrilla camp and found documents and ammunition which Marine Lt. Abraham Respicio said had been hastily abandoned by rebels retreating deeper into the forests.

Among the rebel leaders being hunted is the Rev. Conrado Balweg, a priest who abandoned his parish in the nearby province of Abra to join the rebels in 1979. He has since become a legendary figure among the more than 700,000 Igorot tribemen living on the slopes and in the valleys of the mountains.

The military has offered a reward of 200,000 pesos (11.-111 U.S. dollars) for Balweg, dead or alive.

Badival, an Igorot himself like Balweg, said two battalions numbering "less than 2,000 soldiers" were operating in his area. More than that number are believed operating in Tinglayan across the border.

In addition to the war planes, the government of President Ferdinand E. Marcos is also using U.S.-built "chenite" armored personnel carriers specially designed for anti-insurgency operations.

The current government offensive is the biggest military operations in the Cordilleras since the rebels first appeared in the area in 1976. They gradually gained support of the mountain people who resented government plans to dam the Chico river and accused soldiers sent to secure the project site of abuses.

Badival and other military sources in the area, toured by a group of local reporters including the Associated Press the past three days, said the rebels so far have avoided big-scale clashes.

The eight military dead reported by church sources who did not want to be identified were from skirmishes and ambushes June 27 and 28 in Basao, Buecalan and Bugnay villages in the vicinity of the Centures--old rice terraces carved by the Igorot's ancestors on the mountainsides.

No damage to the terraces has been reported from the fighting.

Marcos has estimated the NPA strength at more than 6,000 men throughout the country but the NPA claims it has up to 20,000 guerrillas. The bulk of them operate in the southern island of Mindanao, in some parts of the central Philippines and in the Bicol region on the southern tip of Luzon.

The military has set up checkpoints on roads leading to the area and travellers are searched and sometimes required to sign a registry, stating their addresses and dates of birth.

Local officials have strongly protested the troops' deployment in the Bontoc area, specially in the scenic Sagada village frequented by foreign tourists.

Badival said the entry of troops in the village was necessary because it was suspected of being the seat of a communist party regional committee.

"The people simply don't like them," said Bontoc Mayor Luis Claver. "We are a peaceful people and we don't like to see soldiers carrying guns in the streets. We don't need soldiers even if there are NPAs (in the villages). As far as I know, no NPAs are causing any trouble."

CSO: 4200/924

CROP YIELD FEARED TO DROP 50-70 PERCENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Jul 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] There may be a 50 percent to 70 percent decrease in crop yields nationwide because of the prohibitive prices of fertilizers and pesticides and the inavailability of credit, the Farmers League of the Philippines said yesterday.

FLP Director-General Ben Cruz said that many farmers have not yet started planting because of lack of credit, while those who have already planted cannot use high-priced fertilizers and pesticides.

He urged government to help troubled farmers by providing them low-cost fertilizers and pesticides and by protecting them from high interest rates.

Cruz said a 50 percent decrease in crop yield is expected among farmers who have already planted or a 70 percent decline nationwide, including those who will not be able to plant.

The situation should be remedied immediately, he said, because rice plants cannot wait as there is a time frame for planting and application of fertilizers and pesticides. Once these are neglected, yields will decrease significantly and there will be unavoidable shortage, Cruz said.

This will require more dollars, he said, to pay for rice importation, to the detriment of farmers and the economy.

Meanwhile, in joint meeting last Friday, FLP and the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association agreed to ask the President to remedy the present credit problems of farmers and to abolish taxes on fertilizers.

Manuel B. Rotea Sr., ARBA president, said the needed production loans and relief sought by farmers will enable them to plant their crops and apply fertilizers on time.

Rotea said he cannot understand why the Ministry of Agriculture and Food has not yet taken any steps to remedy these problems since, he said, it cannot be denied that there is a rice shortage as evidenced by the 150,000 metric tons of rice imported from Thailand.

WRITER SEES JUSTIFICATION IN COJUANGCO LIBEL SUIT

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 9-15 Jul 84 pp 2,7

[Commentary by Chuck Vallamor: "The Cojuangco Libel Suit"]

[Text] If anything, the lesson that may be learned from the P120 million libel suit filed by Ambassador Eduardo M. Cojuangco, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of the San Miguel Corporation, against lawyer Lupino Lazaro and the publisher, the editor, and a writer of Panorama magazine in connection with a published article that allegedly linked Cojuangco to the Aquino assassination, is the exercise of prudent and discreet care in the handling of news dissemination (sometimes verging on gossip and derogatory insinuations) that tend to ridicule, put to contempt, and expose to public hatred the person and character of an individual, especially one who has attained prominence and high esteem in the community through sacrifice and dedication to his chosen career.

This was what literally pushed Cojuangco to the wall; and he had no other recourse but to fight back through the courts for his reputation and integrity was indeed sullied and maligned maliciously by the published insinuations linking him to the Aquino assassination.

Cory Aquino, wife of Senator Benigno Aquino, was reported to have remarked that she didn't believe Ambassador Cojuangco had anything to do nor had any involvement in the assassination of her late husband.

Whatever the Cory Aquino remarks meant, one thing is certain: Ambassador Cojuangco was on the right track in filing the libel suit against those who exposed him to public ridicule and hatred.

Included with Lazaro in the complaint were Mauro R. Avena, author of the article; Domini Torrevillas-Suarez, Panorama editor; and Mariano B. Quinson, Jr., vice president of Bulletin Today, the publisher of Panorama.

The article that appeared in the July 1, 1984 issue of the magazine was entitled "Is the Agrava Board Afraid to Know the Truth?"

The article was based largely on an interview of Lupino Lazaro, lawyer for the Galman family. He was cited as the source of the remarks libelous to Cojuangco.

PC-INP TROOPS KILL MNLF 'ASSASSINS' IN COTABATO

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 8 Jul 84 pp 1, 7

[Text] Two confirmed Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) members of a liquidating squad were shot dead by the combined elements of the police and military forces in a shooting incident which took place at 8:30 p.m. last Tuesday night in a terminal in Catabato city.

The PC-INP team led by Lt. Nick Bartolome, commanding officer of the 480th PC Company, was on routine inspection implementing General Orders 66 and 67 along Jose Lim, Sr. street, in Cotabato, when the incident happened.

The two slain MNLF men were among those about to be frisked by the authorities. Just as a member of the inspecting team got close to the two, one of the slain, suspects held on to his pistol tucked on the waist but was beaten to the draw. Just as the trooper fired the first shot, other members of the crack team using armalite rifles, followed suit, killing instantaneously the two suspects.

Although the military refused to divulge the names of the assassins, reports revealed that one of the two slain suspects was identified as the killer of Citorino Lagat, a chief radio technician of radio station DXRO in Cotabato. Lagat was killed last January 30, 1984 along Almonte street in Catabato city.

Recovered from the victims body were one .45 caliber pistol, .22 caliber pistol and a mission order from the MNLF commander in zone five, indicating, among others, that other members of the MNLF will extend necessary assistance in implementing the mission of the two suspects.

Meanwhile, Col. Brassim Mamalinta, CONDISCOM commander, said that since he assumed as head of the command in January 23, 1984, his group was able to kill 18 members of the MNLF liquidating teams, and captured 19 long high-powered firearms since Lt. Bartolome became the head of the 480th PC company.

CSO: 4200/930

MARINES OVERRUN NPA TRAINING CAMP NEAR DAVAO CITY

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 6 Jul 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by Antonio M. Ajero]

[Text] Elements of the Second Philippine Marine Battalion under Maj. Inocencio Artajoss swooped down on a big New People's Army training camp, killing an undetermined number of communist terrorists during fierce gunfights in upper Tamayong near the boundary of Davao City and North Cotabato last Tuesday.

In a report to Brig. Gen. Jaime Echeverria, regional unified command chief for southern Mindanao, Col. Rodolfo Biazon, Marine Third Brigade commander, said that the assault also resulted in the capture of three alleged NPA regulars, 13 high-powered firearms, several rounds of assorted ammunitions, medical supplies, training manuals and other subversive documents.

Biazon told General Echeverria that among those seized during the skirmishes were three M16 armalites, six garand rifles, one BAR (Browning automatic rifle), one carbine, one grenade launcher and one rifle grenade.

He reported that the Marines first assaulted the training camp which might have been established from two weeks to one month ago, at about 9:15 a.m. of Tuesday (July 3), Some 80 terrorists, despite being surprised fought back fiercely for about 45 minutes, retreating only after suffering heavy casualties.

Pursuing government troops again engaged the eluding terrorist band in a running battle for more than an hour at about 3 p.m. that same day in the thickly forested areas of Tamayong.

Echeverria said the government troops suffered no casualty.

He said the Tamayong camp was so far the biggest to be overrun by the military in Davao City this year.

CSO: 4200/930

PRESENT CONDITIONS SEEN LEADING TO MARTIAL LAW RENEWAL

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 10 Jul 84 pp 3, 10

[Commentary by Ernie Arcenas in the "Just A Minute" column: "Prelude to Martial Law"]

[Text] Events unfolding in the country today show unmistakable signs of trouble ahead. I have a conscious feeling that like the events prior to the declaration of Martial Law, the same will be happening today. I cannot now recall the sequences of events in 1971 and the early months of 1972, but these are some of the happenings in those fateful days: Demonstrations were held two to three times a week leading to violent confrontation with the police. Pitch battles occurred with deaths and injuries to students activists and the military men. Labor strikes were held not only in Metro Manila but in other provinces such as in Negros. Radical organizations like Kabataang Makabayan (KM) Samahang Demokratiko ng Kabataan (SDK) and others were in the forefront of the student unrest. The secessionist movement in Mindanao was gaining momentum and killings were daily occurrences. In Luzon, the New People's Army are plotting to stage attacks on government installations and in the political front, the Marcos administration is underfire from all fronts and is sure of meeting defeat in the hands of political opponents.

What do we have today, Violent demonstrations are again the fare of the day. The government is staging a massive operation to ferret out rebels in the Cordilleras in Central Luzon. Labor unrest is acting up. Unsolved killings are ordinary happenings, and in the political front the Marcos regime is under threat of being dislodged from power. The days before martial law in 1972 was revolutionary. The same is also true today.

Looking back to these days, I can see clearly the situation now. As a reporter during those days, I did not discern the situation to be revolutionary. Covering the students' demonstrations and talking to their leaders, they were only airing their grievances and ventilating their leaders, they were only out to ask what the law provides. They are asking for the implementation of labor laws and social legislation. Politicians are asking for a change in leadership. The motley group of rebels are fighting against injustice committed against the farmers and peasants in the countryside.

But reports in the national papers and in government owned radio stations depict a tense and revolutionary situation. Dissenters are out to destabilize

and overthrow the existing governmental authority. The Marcos administration is in peril.

Reading the papers today the unmistakable signs of pre-martial law days can be observed. A former member of the Interim Batasang Pambansa said the events are again being manipulated to warrant the imposition of drastic measures. And what is drastic or draconian than the imposition again of Martial Law. The writ of habeas corpus will again be suspended throughout the country. Or was it really lifted? Marcos dissenters will again be persecuted and the Marcos dictatorship will forever remain in this forsaken land.

Only God knows what will happen next but if you have been reading the events 12 years ago until today, they have now mastered the art of foretelling what will happen next. The powers-that-be now possess God-like powers.

CSO: 4200/924

BENEDICTO LINKED TO CHARGES AGAINST FR GORE, OTHERS

Broadway THE NATIONAL TIMES in English 6-12 Jul 84 #701 pp 24-27

[Article by Alfred McCoy: "Why Was Gore Framed"]

[Excerpts] AT DUSK on March 12, 1982 a red Ford pick-up truck was moving fast through the foothills of Kabankalan on Negros Island in the central Philippines. It passed through the bamboo stilt houses of Bayhaw village and was climbing the last ridge that separated it from the safety of the open cane-fields below.

At the wheel was Mayor Pablo Sola, recently released on bail for the torture-murder of seven peasants from a nearby village, and riding in the back were two heavily armed police and the manager of Sola's sugarcane plantation.

As the truck crested the ridge and passed under the boughs of a camonuil tree, 15 communist guerrillas opened up with a blaze of M-16 and M-2 carbine fire from the high grass above the road. Several seconds and 100 rounds later, the truck crashed to a halt, most of its occupants dead instantaneously from multiple wounds.

The guerillas retreated south-east into the mountains where the New People's Army (NPA) had won a vast liberated zone.

The local Philippine Constabulary units soon gathered conclusive evidence of NPA responsibility for the killing.

In an interview with the Visayan Daily Star published on July 21st, the Task Force commander Colonel Hidalgo stated that two communist guerillas had "admitted participating in the ambushcade of Kabankalan mayor Pablo Sola."

Clearly, the murder of Mayor Sola was just one more bit of violence in the revolution which has been sweeping much of the central and southern Philippines over the decade.

But these days in the Philippines almost nothing is as simple as it seems. On February 25, 1983, Captain Galileo Mendoza, an officer in the same Task Force Kanlaon which had captured the NPA guerillas formally charged an improbable group of Catholic conspirators with the mayor's murder—six Filipino lay-workers, a Filipino parish priest, Irish missionary Father Niall O'Brien, and Australian missionary Father Brian Gore.

In Negros, as in much of the Philippines, the old order is dying in the midst of a major upheaval. Father Gore is caught between communist and Constabulary, planters and workers, Church and State. The Gore case was but a tremble sparked by the grinding tectonic plates of social change.

Long-known for their servility, Negros workers began to stir in the late 1960s and turned to the Church for support just as the Bacolod diocese was breaking its historic alliance with the planter class.

In 1966 the Vatican appointed Antonio Fort as Bishop of Bacolod with special instructions from the Pope to "do something for the poor of Negros". In 1969 the Bishop issued the "Pastoral Letter on Social Justice", which condemned land grabbing in the hills and proclaimed the "natural right of labourers...to form legitimate and free labour unions."

Under the leadership of a brilliant young priest, Father Luis Jalandoni, the diocese initiated formation of the first real labour unions in the province in a quarter of a century--the Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) and the National Federation of Sugarcane Workers (NFSW) which has evolved into one of the most militant Philippine trade unions.

In 1970 when Father Brian Gore, then a 26-year-old Columban missionary priest, landed in Negros there was little in his background to prepare him for a society and Church in the turmoil of transition.

Since a conventional Church would have reached only a fraction of 12,000 parishioners scattered over a large mountain area, Gore was forced to experiment with a new style of parish organisations, the Basic Christian Community (BCC).

He began to transfer control over the parish to local communities of 30 families operating as a mutual-aid group. Instead of concentrating on prayer and ritual, each Community adopted a total approach to the human development of its members--spiritual, educational and economic.

Father Gore ran a series of two-day "self-discovery" seminars. In the broadest sense, these seminars were a practical application of the theology of liberation which was then developing among radical clerics in the Latin American church.

As the parish grew gradually into a self-sustaining network of 52 Christian communities with 10,000 members, Father Gore became free to shift his efforts into the economic development of his parish.

Father Gore's partner in this Church experiment was his co-accused, Father Niall O'Brien, who was assigned to a neighbouring mountain parish. Also a Columban missionary, O'Brien had spent 10 years in Negros.

Once mobilised and militant, the Christian communities suddenly emerged as a major political force in the mountains--opposing land grabbing, illegal gambling, corrupt local tax collectors and abusive village officials. Without realising

it, Father Gore had challenged the authority of Kabankalan's Mayor Sola and the planter elite he represented.

Mayor Sola appealed to the Government for support and Manila dispatched the Constabulary's Long Range Patrol, a unit of 30 crack jungle fighters from the Moslem wars of Mindanao. Hardened to the point of savagery, the Long Range Patrol often marched with shovels to bury their victims, a habit which makes precise calculation of the number killed impossible.

Prompted by a wave of complaints, Bishop Fortich convened a session of the Church-Military Liaison Committee at Father Gore's Oringao parish in March, 1980.

An awesome crowd of 7,000 parishioners assembled before a forum of their social superiors--priests, senior Constabulary officers, and local officials--to complain angrily of municipal corruption and military abuse.

Used to deference from such "ignorant" peasants, the Constabulary officers fumed and Mayor Sola raged. But the Christian community spokesmen held their ground and the authorities left humiliated.

Vegeance was swift. Only days after the mass meeting at Oringao, the Long Range Patrol summarily executed two parish lay leaders. They also arrested seven innocent villagers, who had no contact with the Christian communities, and brought them to Mayor Sola's hacienda.

After three days of torture, the seven were hog-tied and buried alive in a canefield only 150 metres from the mayor's front door. Unknown to either the mayor or the troops, some peasant watched the burial closely that night and marked the spot.

The news somehow reached the Columban priests in Kabankalan and Bishop Fortich began pressuring the Constabulary for an investigation.

At 6 am on September 16, 1980, Captain Comilang knocked at Mayor Sola's door with a squad of troops and then marched in the middle of the canefield where he ordered the digging to begin.

At three feet the stench was overpowering and at five feet they found the seven mangled bodies.

Mayor Sola was indicted for the murder on October 1, granted bail several months later, and ambushed by the NPA guerillas in March, 1982.

By the time Mayor Sola was murdered, the Church was locked into a confrontation with both the planters and the Marcos regime. In an effort to silence Church opposition, the military raided Church offices in 1982, charging priests and nuns with subversion.

In Negros the crackdown was handled by President Marcos's regional plenipotentiary, Roberto S. Benedicto, an enormously powerful man who had reason to dislike the Church in general and the Columbans in particular.

Descended from one of Negros' wealthiest planter families, Benedicto became chairman of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom), a new government agency with sweeping powers.

Since the sugar industry dominates Negros, Benedicto soon translated his economic authority into near-dictatorial political power over the island.

Benedicto had reason to be dismayed with the Church's support for the militant sugar workers' union, the NFSW. When the union struck La Carlota Sugar Mill in central Negros in February 1982, priests and nuns joined picket lines and the diocese threw its resources behind the union action.

In a televised speech before Constabulary troops and government officials, eight months before their trial began, Benedicto passed judgement on Gore and O'Brien by implying strongly that they had murdered the mayor.

Bishop Antonio Fortich, who has a detailed knowledge of the case, is convinced that Benedicto was the architect of the charges against his priests.

"Benedicto has the men in this province to make up this case," said the Bishop pausing to pour me a cognac. "He controls just about everyone here in Negros. The Constabulary commander, Col. Agudon, was Benedicto's man from the start. The judge, Legaspi, is also his man."

Task Force Kanlaon, the Constabulary unit that gathered all the allegations against the priests, is financed by Benedicto's Philsucom.

The dashboard of each truck bears the photo of Mr and Mrs Benedicto in the place where most Filipinos have a saint's image.

Gore and O'Brien will be deported. The future of their Kabankalan parishioners is less certain. In recent months the NPA guerillas have begun operating in their parishes, drawing in the Constabulary's death squads.

When he started his Christian communities, Father Gore saw them as a non-violent alternative to government indifference and revolutionary violence. But he is no longer sure.

The military's violence offers the Christian communities the choice between getting back down on their knees or allying with the NPA guerillas who can provide an armed defence.

On my last day with him in prison when I asked Father Gore what he thought of his parishioners chances, he focused on me with his engaging smile: "The choice belongs to the people of Oringao. If our Christian communities do decide to join the NPA, then the revolution will be better for it."

CSO: 4200/924

STUDENT LEADER ALEJANDRO DISCUSSES TACTICS, VIEWS

Makati MR. & MRS. in English 13 Jul 84 No 43 pp 18, 19

[Interview with University of the Philippines Student Council Chairman Leandro "Lian" Alejandro by Francois Joaquin]

[Text] **W**HEN UP Student Council Chairman Leandro Alejandro shows up for an interview, a little over ten minutes late, it is with an apology for the delay. He has received word that a student mass action group, set to assemble Tuesday afternoon at Morayta, is to be teargassed by the military, and he has necessarily had "to attend to a few things".

Tall and lean with a solemn but amiable air, "Lian" does not sport the loud rhetoric or the towering stature assumed by the student leader stereotype.

The impression he gives even as he traipses about on slippers, is that of the son of a middle class family which he is. His accountant-father is working in Saudi and his mother, a teacher at the Tanza Elementary School in Navotas. But she is not, as one would readily presume of the mother of Lian, a member of the radical Alliance of Concerned Teachers. He celebrated his 24th birthday last Tuesday by picketing the Western Police District to protest that tear-gassing of students of Morayta on their way to Mendiola.

Lian lacks only six units in P.E. to obtain an AB degree major in Philippine Studies. His extra-curricular concerns are far from

scholarly and though mild and unassuming, his movements speak of grim determination.

The Friday before, canisters of the gas had effectively and painfully dispersed a crowd of over 5000 at Mendiola, and Lian grimly views the possibility of a repeat performance when the students face Malacanang again today with their demands. "We have the right, at the very least," he stresses, "to air our demands, and the military has no right to inflict violence against defenseless students."

His point, almost dramatic, is cause for not a little worry: "The violence will not come from us — we will be very peaceful; we will take precautions against any eruption of violence. But we will not allow them to indiscriminately hurt innocent people again," Denying rumors that the students are to come armed, he insists that the group's concern is "not how to fight back, but how to prevent" violence.

With this as target, Lian emphasizes the immediate need for a conscientization program. He elaborates, "We must air this publicly: that we are not simply adventurist youth, but are very serious about what we are doing and need (public) support." While

a marketplace of fertilizers, pesticides and farm equipment produced by the multinationals." Virata, like the teacher (at UP, too) that he was once, lectured: "What's interesting in a university is to learn first rather than brand . . . A plant doesn't need fertilizers because of the multinationals. That is jumping to conclusion by association. That is not what education is all about."

What then is education all about? "If it's so important, 'why was the government's subsidy to UP cut down by 43% (as stipulated in the 1983 Letter of Intent)?' asked Loudette Almazan, vice-chairman of the UP-SC. "Why not re-channel military funds to education?" pressed Liza Pulgado of UP-Manila. "Why not improve social services (instead of military)?" came Lambino again.

Virata has all the explanations: "You should think in terms of the national economy. Have you conducted a study on the characteristics of Philippine economy? I don't like this memorization of facts . . . The defense budget always appears large because the police, as well as other government agencies, (i.e. PAG-ASA, Coast Guard) are included, which should not be the case." Virata, however stressed the government's objective to preserve the republic. "It's important in the Third World that we do not show any sign of weaknesses . . . We have many active neighbors . . . We have to secure the place first before we can undertake development."

The students pressed on with questions over the total foreign debt, where the money went, and a demand for explanation from the man whom the students said, is one of the key personalities, one of the main actors in today's economic fiasco. "You want raw data? the facts?" Virata asked.

"We do not need statistics to say that we are suffering," Alejandro replied. "You have access to the data, we are not privy to the formulation of monetary policies. But people are suffering and this should not necessarily be the case. We are not responsible for this crises. Why are we made to pay for sins of others?"

The Prime Minister responded by reciting a litany of "government projects and achievements" which are "purely glossed over." He said: "We have to build bridges, irrigation systems, energy plants . . . If we did not do this, I could not imagine what food shortage we will suffer now, what energy shortage we will suffer now."

Alejandro asked: "Then why, despite all these meaningful government programs/projects are we still in crises now?"

"Because sometimes, the international environment is not kind to us. Sometimes, the weather is not kind to us," said Virata.

Things are easily said than done, the Prime Minister stressed. "What I'm trying to say is that if we are to resolve these problems, we should help each other.

How?

The Minister surmised: "Perhaps you can help by trying to consume less imported items, stop making heroes out of foreign personalities."

Alejandro pressed further on the student's desire for knowledge on government's monetary policies. "Can we get primary documents, Sir (Letter of Intent, for instance)?"

"No," Virata said emphatically. "These are state secrets." His answer caused rippled laughter from the students, some of whom, seated on the carpeted floor, unfolded a red streamer for the Minister to see.

Unfazed, Virata continued: "Why are school exams kept secret? You complain of leaks. That's a strategic concern."

There is no such thing as Filipinos living below the poverty line, he answered another question from the audience. "That's a concept developed by some institutions but which we don't apply here. It's easy for a person not to work and to claim that he is poor. There are many areas here which have employment opportunities but people refuse to work."

The Prime Minister was running

out of time. He could only answer two more questions. Alejandro took to the mike: "Can you help us, Sir, with our planned march to Malacanang tomorrow? even up to Mendiola Bridge only?"

"You say what you want. I say my side. In the end, you still say what you want," Virata snorted. "You are approaching the President in the wrong way. I don't think you will improve the atmosphere

of national reconciliation.... You can have your march, I have my functions to attend to."

"It's unfair to say we are both closed-minded," Virata disagreed to Alejandro's statement that the administration refused to listen to them. "We listen to you.... Why did we lower the voting age? Why is the youth sector represented in the Batasan? The presence of the press makes us react differently." (The Prime Minister earlier insisted for a closed-door dialogue but the students wanted the press inside.) The youth got what they wanted, the Prime Minister Chided media for playing up the student's demands.

The next day, the students marched to Mendiola

counting on such sympathy to their cause as a major deterrent to military harrassment, Lian cites more concrete precautions against unwanted violence: the use of plastic bags to envelop tear-gas containers, towels and handkerchiefs soaked in water and certain acidic substances (how does kalamansi sound?) to counter the chemical's alkaline base. And yet he hopes that the students will not be forced to resort to such measures: "Definitely if they hit us on Friday, it's going to escalate matters."

Serious and articulate, the student leader has not always been

so militantly nationalist. "On the contrary," he recalls, "I was raised in a family that — with my father in particular — was pro-Marcos... I remember voting for the retention of martial law." In an earlier interview he described himself as "a typical martial law baby". For his elementary and high-school education, he went to St. James in Navotas. In college, critical of the UP Collegian, which he felt was "too political", Lian nevertheless decided to sign up for the school paper's features staff. Later, with a string of articles about demolition sites and the like to his name, he "discovered there was something wrong after all"

Three years ago, under SAMASA, a nationalist and democratic alliance of over 100 student organizations, Lian was

elected president of the Student Council for the UP College of Arts and Sciences. That same year, hounded by the military, he went into hiding for eight months, during which he wrote a "farewell" letter to his family.

"I didn't want to get caught by surprise," he explains, "if anything did happen, I wanted them to know that I was thinking of them." Meeting first with Opposition from his home, then with fear for his safety, and finally with acceptance, Lian does not credit his experience as unique: "I guess for all young people like myself, at one point, (our families) realize that

this is no fad; that this is a conscious decision; that we know what we're fighting for and are willing to make sacrifices."

He is hardly, he smiles, as "grim and determined" as he is made out to be: "Given a chance I'd just stay home and play chess, read in the afternoon, play a little tennis." But this tone, even in its lighter moments, is somewhat grave: "Maybe someday, when all the people can afford to play chess, and read in the afternoon, and play a little tennis, I'll do that. But right now, while people are being murdered and going hungry, it doesn't seem right to be playing chess."

Has he ever been accused of being a fanatic? "A fanatic, a subversive, a Communist," he laughs. And then is serious again as

he deliberates, "Given the present political and economic situation, Marxism and Communism — or non-Marxism and non-Communism — should not be the bone of contention." What then should? "Sovereignty. Democratic rights. Social justice. Progress."

Asked whether he believes that egalitarianism is not literally and merely a utopian ideal, he replies, "I myself do not believe in equality in an absolute sense. I believe in equity — those who need more should be given more." The next question obvious — who decides how much of what should go to whom? Lian underlines the importance of representation at the grassroots. The Batasan, he believes, fails to provide this. Describing the legislative body as "a creation of the dictatorship upon the recommendation of the U.S. government," Lian continues; "I do not see how we can use a tool of the dictatorship against it." The minority is limited in what it can accomplish: "More

importantly, (the accomplishment) will be secondary, because the real battles are going to be fought in venues created by the people's protest movements, in institutions created by their struggles. If (the minority) recognizes this political reality, it could be even more productive."

Returning to the topic of fanaticism, Lian declares, "This is not a religion — dogmatic, inflexible to the point that your ideas are closed to reality." The point is pressed: is he not himself guilty or dogmatism? "Well, you can be flexible in tactics, in form; but in substance, there are fundamental things you will never compromise."

When the multi-sectoral protest group marches today to Malacanang, it will not compromise the objectives: "We will sit it out indefinitely." Then, if the administration still refuses to dialogue? "We will come back again and again — and again." And that, for Lian, is "launching a democratic struggle democratically".

VISAYAS COMMANDER DENIES 'MILITARISATION' OF CAMPUSES

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 5 Jul 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] The top army commander in Central Visayas yesterday denied charges that there is "militarization" of the school campuses in the country today.

Brig Gen Benjamin M. Divinagracia, commanding general of the Army's 3rd Infantry (Spearhead) Division based at Camp Lapulapu here, said that the only semblance of a "militarization" of the school campuses is perhaps the inclusion in the school curriculum of the Citizen Army Training or CAT-I in the high schools and the Citizen Military Training (former the Reserve Officers Training Corps or ROTC), in college, but which are mandatory under the provisions of Commonwealth Act No 1, otherwise known as the National Defense Act of 1935. The Act requires "all able-bodied citizens to render military service."

Gen Divinagracia made the clarification before 50 cadets taking the Advance CMT Course from the University of San Carlos, Southwestern University, UP College Cebu and the Colegio de San Jose Recoletos who paid their courtesy call on the Army commander at the Camp Lapulapu Conference Center.

The Army top brass, however, deplored the seemingly "dwindling" of the number of young men and women who now take interest in taking up the Advance CMT Course where before, he said, "it was a great honor to become an Advance ROTC graduate and commissioned as second lieutenants in the AFP."

As this developed, General Divinagracia expressed the fear that the time will come when there will be no more reserve officers but only regular officers that will man the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Despite this development, Gen Divinagracia encouraged the young cadets to pursue CMT Course and later aspire to apply for commissionship in the Reserve Force even as they don't join yet in the active military service while practising their respective professional careers.

On the charge by administration critics that there is also militarization of some government corporations and some civil government agencies with the assignment of military officers in said corporations and agencies, Gen Divinagracia said that these military officers have obtained masters degrees

that make them more than qualified to hold their positions, that because of their military discipline, these AFP officers are found more successful and progressive in their handling and in running of these corporations.

At the same time, Gen Divinagracia exhorted the young cadets to develop friendly attitude towards each other and not to engage on destructive rivalry among the CMT units of the various colleges and universities, even as he offered the facilities of Camp Lapulapu to include the use of weapons and ammunitions in their training.

The cadets were accompanied during their courtesy call on the top army commander by Col Renato V. Palma, commanding officer of the 7th Regional Home Defense Unit, ARESCOM; Maj Ricardo Valuis, commandant of the SWU and UP College Cebu CMT Unit; Maj Nerio D. Valerio, commandant of the USC CMT Unit and Maj Arcadio S. Astrologia, commandant of the CSJR CMT Unit.--(7CRISG, PACRIS)

CSO: 4200/917

EDITORIAL ON DISAPPEARANCE OF 75 STUDENTS AFTER RALLY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 10 Jul 84 p 3

[Editorial: "The 75 Missing Students"]

[Text]

The missing students reported in an alternative press as having mysteriously disappeared after the Mendiola rally should be produced by the military without delay. Or, at least, the law enforcers must exert all efforts to have them accounted for.

While the military and law enforcement branch of the government have time and again been put in doubt and suspicion on summary or secret killings in the past, the big number of students — the recent figure reaching 75 as missing — is rather alarming. It will put the military on the level of the KGB if the suspicion is not allayed. The earlier the suspicion and fears arising therefrom are cleared, the better for all in this country.

Assurance of their safety and whereabouts, if they are alive, will greatly unnerve our countless doubting minds.

CSO: 4200/924

EDITORIAL SUMMARIZES RECENT POLICE VIOLENCE INCIDENTS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 Jul 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Police Violence"]

[Text]

Something is terribly and horribly wrong when police and military troopers, who are armed and maintained with the taxpayers' money, end up not as the protectors of the people's rights but as their oppressors, suppressors of their rights and, in some instances, their executioners. Last Monday's police and Metrocom assault on strikers at the Artex Development Corp. in Malabon is the latest of a very disconcerting pattern of state forces turning against the people.

In last Monday's incident, police and Metrocom anti-riot troops, who included among them elements of the Metrocom Reaction Strike Force, also known as the celebrated SWAT team, charged into the workers' picket-line even before the workers could heed the troopers' order to disperse. The state forces were there to deliver an injunction against the strikers from the National Labor Relations Commission. SWAT people to deliver an injunction?

At any rate, the Artex violence is similar in many details to the police charge on the picketline of Foamtex Industries in Valenzuela last April 6, in which two workers were killed and 15 persons were injured. Earlier, strikes which had popped up all over in the wake of economic difficulties which seem to have hit low-paid workers the hardest, had been broken up in the same fashion: with police and the Metrocom triggering the violence. Many are still fresh in mind — at the Philippine Electric Co. in Taytay on March 30, with 31 injured and 22 arrested; at the Inter-

polymer Foamtex Corp. in Valenzuela last March 16, 126 injured and 72 arrested, and at the Balanced Food Corp. at the beginning of March.

There is a common thread to all these incidents. Violence did not start from the workers, or nor was it remotely threatened. It started when the police pursued the all-important aim of "dispersal." In at least two cases, the order was to "disperse at all costs." In most instances, this was achieved with force. The injuries were mostly on the workers' side - the deaths certainly were all from their ranks. The assaulted workers were the ones arrested and charged in court.

The pattern was very much the same at the student march last Friday to present their demands and grievances to Malacanang. Again seeking to disperse the protesters, police and Metrocom lobbed tear gas and smoke bombs into the student ranks and waded in with truncheons swinging. Many of the students were hurt, dozens were picked up and some are still missing.

One important aspect of these incidents, aside from the disturbing regularity, is the openness with which they had been done - in the full view of crowds. At Malabon, the troopers even chased fleeing workers into private homes which they sprayed with water hoses, even while private citizens screamed protests at them.

And there is something frighteningly new in the Artex clash. The workers themselves say as many as 7 of their number died from military bullets, but they were not allowed to retrieve the bodies from the nearby creek into which the fatalities fell. There was little respect for the poor workers' lives; would the dead also be denied a decent burial?

This pattern of violence on ordinary citizens by the forces of the law should arouse not just public condemnation but generate efforts to return control over these forces into the hands of the people. And this must be done before any more such killings occur.

CSO: 4200/924

BRIEFS

NPA 'FORCED TAXATION SCHEME'--The New People's Army (NPA) in Northeastern Mindanao is now collecting from residents 10 pesos a week per family as part of its "forced taxation scheme." Until several weeks ago, the NPA was collecting only five pesos weekly per family. Brig. Gen. Pacifico Lopez De Leon, commanding general of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Civil Relations Service (CRS) today said that documents recently confiscated from subversive elements reveal that for those who cannot give the money, the NPAs require contribution to their organization in kind. This forced taxation scheme is prevalent in Agusan del Sur and the two Surigao provinces, De Leon said. The documents further reveal that one-third of the money collected is used for anti-government propaganda activities, he added. As a result, De Leon said that the CRS has reinforced its corps of officers assigned in the 14 CRS centers throughout the country. These personnel will explain to barangay people what the government is doing for their welfare, he said. In addition, 25 new officers called to active duty will be assigned in critical areas to infuse new blood, in the AFP's anti-insurgency campaign codenamed "Oplan atatagan", De Leon said. [Text] [Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 8 Jul 84 pp 1, 10]

CSO: 4200/930

EDITORIAL WANTS ACTION OVER ARRESTED COMMUNISTS

BK161136 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 16 Jul 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Speed Up Trial of Communist Suspects if Evidence Is Available"]

[Text] Many followers of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] have surrendered to the authorities since the promulgation of Order No 66/23, which is the main policy aimed at national reconciliation. Needy defectors have been given land to earn their livelihood, while those who wanted to resume education were given opportunity to do so. Some couples who were married while operating in the jungle were remarried in lively ceremonies in the city with many dignitaries in attendance.

However, the officials who control the implementation of Order No 66/23 are now being asked why no action has been taken against the formation of a group of communists at Khan Na Yao. These communists left the jungle and publicly formed a communist party. They held the fifth congress and issued publications publicizing communism under the "Mahachon" pseudonym. The lack of official action leads to the belief that both the military and civilian security authorities are determined to use Order No 66/23 to defeat the CPT's rural operations and thus force rural operatives to shift to urban operations which would be easier to control. However, the recent arrest of 19 communist suspects and subsequently of supporters—Dr Pricha Piamphongsan and Chatcharin Chaiwat—has confused the public about the implementation of Order No 66/23.

Those who control implementation of Order No 66/23 on the military side, such as Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek, have said the persons taken into custody were merely invited for questioning and would be released if they could clear themselves. Squadron leader Prsong Sumsiri, National Security Council secretary general, commented that there was enough evidence to justify the arrests—it was not a blanket arrest. Police Major General Kasem Saengmit, commander of the Police Special Branch, explained that the suspects have been under surveillance for a long time and there is plenty of evidence to convict them.

Although the people in general do not know how sincere the government is in its implementation of Order No 66/23 because the authorities implementing the order have different criterias about making an arrest, we feel that the suspects should

be brought to trial right away due to the apparently abundant evidence claimed by the authorities. This would enable the suspects to defend themselves in accordance with the judicial system. It would also show that the government's arrests were made after thorough preparations and that it has no intention of delaying detention of the suspects, which is a violation of the international principle that an individual's freedom shall not be violated if he is not proven to be guilty and deserving of punishment.

Chatcharin Chaiwat and Dr Pricha Piamphongsan are valuable human resources. The former is a courageous journalist and performs honestly for the public. The latter is an academician who has an independent mind and who uses his academic knowledge to serve only the people but never powerholders. A prolonged trial, despite the claims of extensive material evidence and witnesses against the suspects, would not serve the government any benefit because it could cause the people to doubt if the arrests were just and lead them to think that there is a power struggle among the authorities over implementing Order No 66/23.

CSO: 4207/183

THAILAND

DEPARTING USSR, SWISS ENVOYS SEE PHICHAJ

BK261053 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Jul 84

[Text] Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Ivanovich Kuznetsov called on Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun at Government House at 1000 today to bid farewell before leaving Thailand upon ending his tour of duty here. The Soviet ambassador was accompanied by the director of the Diplomatic Immunity Division of the Protocol Department, Foreign Ministry, Prayut Tipiphop.

The deputy prime minister welcomed the ambassador cordially and exchanged views with him on subjects related to friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in cultural, commercial, and economic matters. The Soviet ambassador informed the deputy prime minister about the Soviet order for importing a quantity of corn from Thailand. The two also exchanged views on the situation in Asia, the Pacific, and Indochina.

At 1100 the same day Swiss ambassador to Thailand Walter Rieser, accompanied by the director of the Diplomatic Immunity Division, called on Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun to bid farewell before leaving Thailand upon ending his tour of duty. The Swiss ambassador told the deputy prime minister of the growing and close relations between Thailand and Switzerland. The ambassador cited the assistance of the Swiss Government to Thailand, including the development program for Lahansai District in Buriram Province and efforts to promote tourism between the two countries. The deputy prime minister thanked the ambassador for the cooperation rendered to Thailand during his tour of duty here. He expressed confidence that Thai-Swiss relations will forever be strengthened.

CSO: 4207/183

IMPLICATIONS OF TRADE WAR WITH JAPAN

BK180315 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jul 84 p 17

[The Chongkhadikit commentary: "Can We Afford a Trade War With Japan?"]

[Text] Thailand's top official economists spent yesterday unravelling the implications of a trade war with Japan. Their conclusion: we cannot afford one. And their reason: Thailand lacks bargaining power.

In 1983, Thai exports to Japan totalled U.S.\$1 billion while Japanese imports totalled \$3 billion. Thai exports to Japan came to a very small percentage of Japan's total imports, which makes Thailand what the economists call a "marginal market."

Among the main exports to Japan were 5,000 million baht worth of smoked rubber sheets, 2,400 million baht worth of raw sugar and 1,000 million baht of fresh shrimps.

The economists contend that Japan could obtain such goods elsewhere. Besides, it is one of the few countries willing to buy low-grade rubber sheets. But, the economists ask, can we find other lucrative markets for these products?

On the other hand, it was pointed out, our imports from Japan consist mainly of heavy machinery and equipment necessary for our industrial development. If we buy from Europe, it will be at higher prices.

The economists said that in dealing with Japan one cannot confine oneself to trade alone. Other aspects have to be taken into consideration--capital inflow in the form of investment, loans and grants, and technology transfers.

Japan is the biggest source of foreign investments in Thailand, the economists reported. From 1960 to 1982 Japanese investments totalled 2,086 million baht, compared with 1,099 million from the United States, 717 million from the United Kingdom and 330 million from the Netherlands.

Japanese investments accounted for 36 percent of all projects given promotional certificates by the Board of Investment. As far as Japanese investments are concerned, Thailand dropped from second to fifth place among the ASEAN countries from 1973 to 1983, the economists said.

Figures of Japanese investments in the ASEAN countries in 1973 show that \$473 million went into Indonesia, \$129 million in Thailand, \$90 million in Singapore, \$88 million in the Philippines and \$76 million in Malaysia.

Figures for 1983 show that Indonesia had \$7.2 billion, Singapore \$1.36 billion, Malaysia \$764 million, the Philippines \$721 million and Thailand \$521 million.

But, said the economists, Japan has been generous with grants--Japanese grants account for 41 percent of all grants received by Thailand, with the 350 billion yen grant being the third largest given to an Asian country. The first two were given to South Korea and Indonesia.

The economists described the Japanese loans as "most concessional with a lowest interest rate and the largest grace period." They provide Thailand with bargaining power in dealing with international lending agencies whose interest rates are about thrice the Japanese soft loan rate.

They said, "We need the technology Japan has to offer" and suggested that "we should not become too emotional but keep all our options open. The United States and the European Common Market have been unable to make a dent with the Japanese. As a result, they are trying cooperation. Our trade deficit is deeply rooted in the structure of our economy.

"We must have Japanese capital, machinery and know-how for our economic development, to raise the living standards of our people and to keep up with the modernising world.

"We cannot just obsess ourselves with the trade deficit; we have to consider all the other major economic issues. If we don't do anything about these other issues, it's not going to be easy to eliminate the trade deficit. They are inter-connected.

"We, as people, have to start by cutting down on certain things ourselves, particularly luxuries."

CSO: 4200/919

REPORTAGE ON ARRESTS OF SUSPECTED CPT MEMBERS

MATUPHUM Director Held

BK120212 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 12 Jul 84 pp 1-2

[Text] Special Branch police yesterday took into custody a well-known university lecturer, Dr Pricha Piamphongsan, and editorial director of a daily newspaper, Chatcharin Chaiwat, in connection with the ongoing rounding up of suspects related to the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT], Police Director General Police Gen Narong Mahanon reported last night.

Special Branch Commander, Police Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit, while confirming that he had signed orders for the arrest of Dr Pricha and Chatcharin, denied rumours that a former "Young Turk" military officer had also been nabbed as part of the round-up.

Yesterday's arrest of two persons brought to 21 the number of people booked by Special Branch Police since 3 July on charges of being connected with the outlawed CPT.

Police on 3 July arrested 16 persons, including four alleged members of the CPT's Central Committee, and slapped them with communist charges. Two days later, three more suspects were arrested in the continuing roundup.

Former Deputy Prime Minister and ex-MP from Rayong Province Sawet Piamphongsan said his son, Dr Pricha, was arrested by police who arrived at 6 pm at their house with an arrest warrant and went away with Pricha and about 70-80 books, mostly on socialism "used by my son to teach students."

"But if you ask me, I can say categorically that my son is not a communist," the former deputy prime minister told THE NATION in an interview. He said a team of Special Branch police officers came to the house and started searching for books before escorting Dr Pricha away.

Another team of policemen went up to the offices of MATUPHUM daily newspaper on Phichai Rd at about 6 pm and said they wanted to question Chatcharin, editorial director of the newspaper. Chatcharin is also an adviser to KHLET LAP weekly published by the same group. The magazine recently

published a lengthy interview with Phirun Chatwanitkun, who was picked up together with 15 other suspects on 3 July on communist charges.

Police Director General Narong said that the Special Branch first took Dr Pricha and Chatcharin to the Special Branch headquarters for questioning before they were taken to Bangkok Police Private Training College where the 19 other suspects arrested earlier had also been detained.

Dr Pricha teaches at the Faculty of Economics of Chulalongkorn University and Kasetsart University. He has been a well-known speaker at various public forums on intellectual and political issues.

Interior Permanent Secretary Phisan Munlucksathorn had said earlier that more arrests will be made as the investigations continue on what officials charge to be CPT's supporters in the capital.

Daily Calls for Speedy Probe

BK170225 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Jul 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Police Must Speed Up Investigation"]

[Text] Special Branch police are holding 21 persons alleged to be members of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT], some of them accused of belonging to the Central Committee or the core of the organization. Like fellow-members of ASEAN, Thailand has tough anti-communist laws and just membership in the CPT is a crime. What is important is that all these people were picked up by the police in the metropolitan area and were not arrested in jungles which used to be their main hideouts.

For more than two decades, Thailand has waged war against the communist insurgents who were active in remote parts of the country. Some of them were non-Thais, as in the South, having crossed over from Malaysia at the end of the 'emergency' in that country. They took root in the jungled border area and a jointed Thai-Malaysian command was set up to fight against them. And during the past few years, numerous insurgents in the jungles have surrendered, one guess being that China had withdrawn her support.

The arrests have naturally caused much widespread interest among the people and it will be in the interest of the government to speed up investigation of these persons. Such a major roundup is not conducted by the police on some vague knowledge; the police must have done a lot of spadework and obtained evidence before the arrests were made. This means the investigation that is going on need not be dragged out since the police already must have a large quantity of documentary evidence.

If they are really members of the CPT their contacts with Laos and Vietnam are not surprising at all. But we are very interested in knowing whether any of them had contacted the Irish Republican Army, which is outlawed in Britain. The IRA is not communist but just a terrorist organization and frequently indulges in mindless violence. It is most infamous for its

urban terrorism. If this link is established, the case becomes more criminal than political in nature, because IRA helps and training can mean only one thing--urban terrorism.

These and several related questions are bothering everybody and the earlier the police, or some other agency, can answer them, the government will greatly enhance its credibility. It should not at all be difficult because according to the police, almost all documented evidence is at hand. The sooner the evidence is produced in courts of law, the greater will be the satisfaction of the public.

Police Appeal to Students

BK170159 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Jul 84 pp 1-2

[Excerpt] The Police Department yesterday appealed for restraint and understanding from university students regarding the mass arrest of communist suspects, saying that authorities have strong evidence indicating the suspects' violent political nature and foreign connections.

The plea came amid mounting dissent from students and academics, particularly against the arrest of university lecturer Dr Pricha Piamphongsan and MATUPHUM editor Chatcharin Chaiwat.

Posters against the mass arrest appeared on several campuses and a group of Ramkhamhaeng University students plans to visit Bangkok Police Private Training School today to provide moral support for Dr Pricha and Chatcharin.

Police Chief Gen Narong Mahanon also dismissed rumours that more people will be arrested. He gave assurances that the round-up would neither affect academic freedoms nor other communist defectors who were already leading lives as law-abiding citizens.

Evidence against the suspects will be made available to the public in due course, he added.

Speaking at a press conference, Pol Gen Narong said police have treated the suspects very well and regarded them as "people with different political ideologies, rather than criminals."

Prem, Athit View Arrests

BK180155 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jul 84 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] A communist suspect was arrested in a city raid yesterday and the police chief said more arrests are expected. An alert was also ordered against possible sabotage attacks on government offices.

Police Director-General Narong Mahanon said Loet Chaichamon, alias Comrade Rot, was apprehended at a house off Sukhumvit Soi Udomsuk (103) in Bangkok.

Saying that more communist suspects, including some important figures, would be arrested, Gen Narong alleged that police had evidence to show Loet was planning urban terrorism attacks in the city.

Loet's arrest brought to 22 the total number of people apprehended on charges connected with pro-communist activity this month.

The police chief said he had ordered police to be on alert as a precaution against sabotage attacks on government offices.

Gen Narong maintained that the arrests of the 22 were not against Order 66/23, under which communist defectors who surrender of their own free will are not penalised. Gen Narong also said that the Anti-Communist Act should be retained.

Calling on communist defectors who had not reported to authorities to do so, he said he believed the arrests had defused the situation.

In a related development, Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon said the suspects would be dealt with justly. "Those who have been cleared for lack of evidence will be released," he said at Government House.

The prime minister, who said he believed the police had evidence when they made the arrests, told Gen Narong to speed up the investigations. "I don't want any problems. We want to preserve good relations with all parties concerned," said Gen Prem, confirming the Government held to the "open arms" policy as stipulated in Order 66/23 to welcome communist members and enable them to turn over a new leaf.

But he said action would be taken against those who took advantage of the Government's liberal policy to carry on subversive activities.

The prime minister dismissed criticism that the arrests were intended to instigate public dissent. "There are no behind-the-scenes motives," he said. "It depends on evidence."

Saying he hoped the issue would not escalate, Gen Prem stressed that officials had not persecuted the suspects nor deliberately deprived them of their freedom.

Asked if there would be any more arrests, he said: "It depends on the evidence."

Meanwhile, Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek hinted that suspects who were cleared of communist charges would be freed on bail.

In an apparent attempt to placate dissent, Gen Athit said that the suspects were arrested because of their activities and the documents found in their possession. He asked the press not to sensationalise the case and asked university lecturers to carry on teaching without fear of arrest.

The Reporters Association of Thailand yesterday issued a statement urging authorities to speed up investigations into the charges of supporting a communist organisation against MATUPHUM editor Chatcharin Chaiwat.

Police Commander on CPT Activity

BK190227 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 19 Jul 84 pp 1-2

[Article by Phongsak Sisot]

[Excerpts] Special Branch Commander Police Maj Gen Kasem Sangnit charged yesterday that the outlawed Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) had planned to convene a new party caucus to change its strategy to urban terrorism if it could secure substantial international support through its clandestine campaigns including a top-level overture towards the Soviet leadership.

Police Maj Gen Kasem told THE NATION in an exclusive interview yesterday that the government had seized a copy of a letter signed by CPT Secretary General Pracha Thanyaphaibun, alias Thong Chaensi, expressing condolences over the death of the late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov from one of the suspects detained in the ongoing roundup in the city.

"But for some unknown reasons, the letter was never passed on to the Soviet leaders," the Special Branch commander said.

The commander quoted one of the detainees as saying that although he had been asked to convey the letter to Moscow's leadership, he had not passed it on since he did not have the connection to do so.

Police Maj Gen Kasem said the government decided to swoop on the suspects to put the brake on the CPT's efforts to obtain foreign support necessary for a switch towards urban terrorism.

CPT operatives have been approaching communist or rebel movements in some European countries, including the Irish Republican Army (IRA), North America as well as two Indochinese countries and some of them had expressed sympathy towards the outlawed movement, he said.

Citing a document seized during the arrests, Pol Maj Gen Kasem said that the IRA pledged to provide technical assistance in radio communications as well as other forms of support for the CPT's urban activities.

"The fact that CPT has some experience in urban activities and that it even sent operatives to Britain to establish contacts with the IRA, which is notorious for its urban violence, shows that the outlawed party pays much attention to the development of its urban movements," he said.

On the CPT's contacts with two Indochinese countries, the Special Branch chief said that the communist suspects had held several rounds of talks with representatives of one of the two countries in April and May in a bid to convince that country that CPT had shifted its foreign policy towards a more independent and open-minded line.

"They met in both Bangkok and other provinces," he said.

In the last round of the meeting the Indochinese country's representative asked the CPT members to record their clarifications on the CPT's stand in a formal letter signed by the party secretary general, he said.

On the other hand, a representative of the unidentified Indochinese country also inquired the CPT negotiators over the party stand on the Kampuchean question and expressed disapproval at the explanation that CPT was opposed to the foreign occupation of Kampuchea, he said.

The response from the other Indochinese country differed somewhat, according to Pol Maj Gen Kasem, who said that the country responded that the clandestine party should first "clean up its house" to achieve ideological unity before resuming contacts, with others, he said.

Referring to the CPT's plan to hold a caucus to review its strategy, Pol Maj Gen Kasem said that the CPT leadership planned to hold a "Fourth 1 Party Congress," and not the Fifth Congress, to establish the new strategy.

He attributed the information to an intelligence report.

He said the government had acquired a tape record containing a report from a foreign-based communist operative about the progress of its efforts to secure foreign support for the new strategy.

Police Chief on Releasing Suspects

BK200145 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] Police Chief Gen Narong Mahanon hinted yesterday that some of the 22 suspects held on communist charges may be released on bail.

Gen Narong said suspects who cooperated by providing useful information during the interrogation or those against whom evidence was weak might be released.

Saying suspects could be released only when interrogations ended, he said police had acted in good faith and had no ulterior motive in making the arrests. Requests for bail would be considered on a case-by-case basis but so far, he said, no such requests had been made.

Special Branch commander Pol Maj-Gen Kasem Saengmit, meanwhile, said only Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, as director of the Internal Security Operations Command, could order releases.

He indicated that if the government used political measures to deal with cooperative suspects, he had to seek Gen Athit's approval if the suspects were to be released.

But he said those suspects would have to undergo reorientation for about 6 months and would then be required to regularly report to authorities for about a year.

Maj-Gen Kasem said police were speeding up interrogations and were examining documents allegedly found in the suspects' possession.

Only a small number of documents was confiscated from university lecturer Dr Pricha Piemphongsan and MATUPHOM editor Chatcharin Chaiwat but more evidence implicating the duo was extracted from the other 19 suspects, he said. It would take some more time before the investigation was completed, he said.

Maj-Gen Kasem said police agents who had trailed the suspects had evidence that some participated in meetings with members of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] in Bangkok and the provinces.

One suspect, he alleged, was in contact with an Indochinese country to arrange for a meeting of its representatives with their Thai counterparts in Thailand.

The Special Branch chief also alleged the CPT had secretly funded a weekly magazine.

Speaking to the Bangkok POST at the Bangkok Police Private Training School, Dr Precha said he knew only two of the suspects--Phirum Chatwanitkun and Mrs Chonthira Sattayawatthana.

Gen Athit later denied the arrests were the result of a power struggle in the Army and rejected reports that he was locked in conflict with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon.

CSO: 4200/919

CPT SAID TO GET IRA AID FOR RADIO PLANS

BK170149 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Jul 84 pp 1-2

[Text] The Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) has obtained "communications equipment" from the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to promote its activities in the urban areas, a senior police official said yesterday.

Commander of the Special Branch Division Pol Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit told a news conference that the assistance from the IRA might include a plan to set up a clandestine radio station in Bangkok.

He said government authorities had obtained evidence about the contacts between the IRA and the CPT. He did not give details but said the notoriety of the IRA had prompted the government to act against ~~the~~ the communist suspects who were arrested in recent separate swoops in the city.

An informed source said that representatives of the CPT had recently met agents of the IRA in England to request assistance for urban terrorism in Thailand.

"After coordinating with all the intelligence units, we decided to pre-empt them," Kasem said.

Kasem also claimed that police investigation had found that a well-known university lecturer had served as a "go-between" for the CPT and some of the Indochinese countries. He did not specify the countries. He said the university lecturer had also allowed his house to be used as a venue for meetings with some leading CPT members. "And after their meetings, they tried to propagate their ideas through both Thai and English newspapers," he said.

The police officer said police had seized some documents on the contacts between the university lecturer and the Indochinese countries. "One of the Indochinese countries indicated that it did not understand the changes taking place in the policy of the CPT which still shares similar views with a superpower in this region, especially on the question of Kampuchea," he said.

He also quoted a letter sent from another Indochinese country to the CPT saying that the Thai communist movement was still fragmented. "It said the CPT should be more united before making any contact with it," he added.

Police last week arrested Dr Pricha Piamphongsan, a university lecturer, and Chatcharin Chaiwat, editorial advisor of MATUPHUM newspaper, on communist charges. Their arrest came shortly after 19 communist suspects, including several alleged CPT members, were taken into custody.

Pol Maj Gen Kasem said Chatcharin and Dr Pricha had been in contact with some of the communist suspects arrested earlier, including Phirun Chatwanitkun, who was alleged to be a member of the Central Committee of the CPT.

He said the CPT had been trying lately to propagate their views through some Thai-language publications.

In answer to a question, he said police had no plan to arrest any more university lecturers. He also said police did not consider textbooks on political doctrines to be incriminating evidence.

He said he had no objection to a plan by Dr Pricha's family to hold a birthday party for the university lecturer at the Police Private Training College where he and the other suspects are being held.

Meanwhile, Police Director General Pol Gen Narong Mahanon said police had been keeping the suspects on surveillance for quite some time before making the arrests.

He denied a report that Krisak Chunhawan, son of deputy leader of Chat Thai Party Maj Gen Chatchai Chunhawan, had been invited by police for questioning.

CSO: 4200/919

TOPSOIL LOSS ERODES FARM OUTPUT

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 1 Jun 84 p 17

[Article by Wirasak Salayakanond]

[Text]

Now on the "warning stage," soil erosion in Thailand will reach "crisis" level in 10 years if soil degradation is maintained at the present pace.

So say Thai scientists, adding that the country's rate of soil erosion is different from one region to another.

In a survey made by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), sediment from soil erosion in 1980 was 220 tons per one square kilometre in the Central and Northern regions, 228 tons in the Eastern and Northeastern regions, and 354 tons in the Southern region. The erosion rate in the South was higher because of widespread mining there.

According to an international standard, any erosion rate above 50 tons per square kilometre is "unusual." The natural soil degradation is around 35-40 tons per square kilometre per year.

Sediments like sand

and unfertile dirt from upper land areas have greatly affected agricultural production. Dr Kasem Chankaew of Kasetsart University's Environmental Science Department has found that in one village, "productivity has decreased as much as 100 percent." He has studied the problem at Ban Huay Kork-ma, a small village in Chiang-mai, Northern Thailand. He found that farmers could not grow anything because their farms have been filled with sediments washed down from upper areas.

In the surrounding villages where cultivation is still possible the farmers now gain only 18-20 tangs (one tang is 10 kilograms) of paddy per one rai (6.25 rai = one hectare) in one year, compared to 80-100 tangs 15 years ago. "This is caused mainly by soil erosion," Dr Kasem says.

Another agricultural expert, Dr Rapee Sagarik agrees. He says the quality of soil in Thailand has been greatly

degraded during the past two decades.

Dr Rapee is the former rector of Kasetsart University. He also pioneered and successfully promoted the growing of orchids for export. He believes the quality of soil in many parts of the country needs to be improved either by adding fertilisers or rotating different crops on the same land.

"Besides the lower productivity, the once rich soil could no longer turn out good-quality product. You could notice that our mangoes and durians are not as sweet as before. Plantations need a lot more fertilisers," he says.

"Soil erosion is an environmental problem which is less conspicuous than the others such as water and air pollutions. But its effects are more widespread and involve a lot more people," says Dr Surin Setamanit, the director of Chulalongkorn University's Institute of Environmental Studies.

Topsoil loss

He says shifting cultivation — a cause of soil erosion — has resulted in topsoil loss of as much as 77,770 kilograms per square kilometre in the past two years. In a natural forest area, the topsoil loss is about 16,380 kg./sq. km.

Dr Surin points to a study of sediment accumulated in the Bhumibhol Dam Reservoir in Tak province, Northern Thailand. He says: "When the dam was constructed more than 20 years ago, a reservoir of 12,200 million cubic metres in capacity was created. It was estimated that the quantity of sediment would be 512 million cubic metres in 100 years and the 3,600 million cubic metres of its ineffective capacity would be filled up in 700 years.

"But it was found that only 8 years after the commissioning of the dam, the sediment quantity as already 175 million cubic metres, or

1.3 percent of the reservoir capacity. If the present trend is continued the useful life of the reservoir would be reduced to only 400 years."

Both the accumulation of sediment and the loss of topsoil in cultivated areas are caused by rain water. "With natural or planted forests, the rate of erosion is slowed down. But how much forest area is left in our country?" Dr Surin asks.

Soil scientists and environmentalists agree that the main factors leading to fast-paced soil erosion are deforestation, mining, construction of infrastructures (such as dams, highways and reservoirs), and improper land uses.

Thailand's forest areas have dwindled very rapidly since 1961 when there were only 171 million rai, or 53 percent of the country, covered by forest. This was reduced to 123 million rai or 38 percent of the total land area in 1973. The rate of reduction was about four million rai per year.

Later in 1977 interpretation of satellite images showed that the forest areas were further reduced during this four-year period to only 82 million rai, or 25 percent of the country's total land area.

"Without forest, fertile topsoil as well as unfertile sediment substances is quickly washed down to lower land areas making it impossible to cultivate anything either on the high land where topsoil has already gone and in the lower land where sediment has already accumulated," says an expert from the Land De-

velopment Department.

Causes of forest destruction are population pressure on land needed for cultivation and settlements; shifting cultivation; forest fire; legal and illegal logging without reforestation. Squatting has also taken its toll when people occupy land using access roads made by new highways and dams. In recent years, more than 10 large dams and about 20 medium and small dams were constructed.

Environmentalists agree that since deforestation has not been coped with effectively by government authorities, soil erosion cannot be easily solved. "Reforestation must be implemented quickly and effectively," says one environmentalist.

An official from the Forestry Department says that "the rate of forest destruction is greater than the capacity to replant trees." From 1910 to 1982 (70 years) only 2.9 million rai of land had been replanted with trees while more than 100 million rai of forest had been destroyed during the period.

In a desperate effort to check soil erosion, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative has taken to land classification. Its Land Development Department has so far covered only 12 provinces in the North, 16 in the Northeast, three in the Central Region, three in the East, one in the West and five in the South. The Department has covered only about 13 million rai (about 4 percent of the country), or 40 out of the 73 pro-

vinces.

The Department has also introduced terrace farming in the North where shifting cultivation by hilltribe people had eroded much of the rich topsoil.

"However, the Department could not make terrace farms available to all the hilltribe people. It can only demonstrate to them and persuade them to follow. The project has received little attention from the hilltribe who prefer to move from one mountain to another to grow opium instead of other crops," says Dr Kasem Chan-kaew.

Next to deforestation, mining also accounts for widespread destruction of soil fertility. "In the tin-rich southern parts of Thailand," says Dr Kasem, "the miners prefer hydraulic mining to dredging mining because they don't have to invest very much. But hydraulic mining causes devastating erosion." He says the destruction in Ranong province is 20 times higher than the average soil erosion rate in the Southern Region and 200 times greater than the natural rate.

"Sand and other sediment substances from hydraulic mines usually flow into canals and further to nearby farms and orchards," Dr Kasem says. He points out that while the areas under hydraulic mining are small compared to the whole country, the erosion from this mining is widespread, covering vast surrounding areas.

So far the Government has restricted mining in certain forest reserves but exception

can be made with approval from the Cabinet. In certain mineral-rich areas, villagers illegally invade the areas with their simple tools and dig for minerals like tungsten or precious stones like ruby and sapphire. As a result, the treasure hunters have left thousands of unfilled holes. When the rains come, the topsoil is washed away and the holes become the birthplace of mosquitoes.

Improper land use also means soil erosion. Many environmentalists, for instance, blame larger plantations of tapioca in the Eastern and Northeastern regions.

"In many countries, tapioca is called the 'killer crop' because the plant has greatly taken away the fertility from the soil and without enough fertilisers the soil will become useless for growing anything else after several seasons of planting tapioca," says Dr Kasem.

Thailand exports tapioca products to Western Europe and Japan; the revenue about 7,000-8,000 million baht (US\$318-US\$364 million) every year.

To solve the problem of soil erosion, the Government has not launched any major projects except the routine work undertaken by the Land Development. The Forestry Department has contributed their efforts to prevent forest destruction. But all the government efforts to stop soil erosion are like a drop of water in the ocean," laments another university researcher. — **Depthnews**

NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 May 84 p 5

[Text]

BANGKOK, May 29

NATURAL gas production from the Gulf of Thailand has reached a record 260 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd) — after 33 months of troubled operations.

The gas comes from the Union Oil Company of Thailand's Erawan and Baanpot gas fields which produced 170 MMcfd and 32 MMcfd respectively on Tuesday, together with 8,000 barrels per day of condensate from the two fields.

Union Oil's jubilant vice-president Paramaporn Krairikah told the *Business Post* that the production target was reached after the company put new wells on-stream after the Department of Mineral Resources granted permission last week.

He said the company

anticipated this production level — if not increased — will at least be maintained for quite some time. Erawan's gas production is unlikely to climb beyond 180 MMcfd, Mr Paramaporn added.

However, gas and condensate production from the Gulf is expected to total 325 MMcfd and 12,000 bpd respectively early next year when Union Oil's new gas fields, Platong and Satun, start production.

On the development of new gas fields under the second gas sales contract with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, Union Oil reported that three well platforms and jackets for the central processing platform and living quarters platform have been installed at Platong field. A fourth

well platform will be set up at the end of the year. A total of 33 wells have already been drilled from the three platforms.

Five well platforms and jackets for the central processing platform and living quarters platform have been installed at Satun field. A sixth well platform will be installed at the end of the year. Drilling at Satun will start next month. A total of 25 wells will be drilled at Satun by the end of this year.

At year-end, a second well platform will also be set up at Baanpot, one of the fields under the second sales contract. Production in this field began in October, 1983, and Baanpot is currently producing 32 MMcfd of gas and 1,750 bpd of condensate.

CSO: 4200/928

BRIEFS

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO USSR, POLAND--President of Parliament Dr Ukrit Mongkonnawin will lead a delegation on a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union and Poland late this month. Members of the delegation will include Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suep Aksaranukro, Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Banchop Bunnak, Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Gen Panot Thawonchan and Secretary General of the National Assembly Sub Lt Panithan Loetrit. Dr Ukrit told reporters yesterday that the delegates will visit the Soviet Union and Poland on 28 July-9 August as guests of the parliaments of the two countries. Dr Ukrit yesterday met outgoing Soviet Ambassador to Thailand Yuriy Kuznetsov during a courtesy call made by the latter at the Parliament. [Excerpt] [BK180205 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 18 Jul 84 p 3]

REFUGEE POPULATION FALLS 20 PERCENT--The number of Indochinese refugees in United Nations camps in Thailand fell nearly 20 percent in the past year due to speedier resettlement abroad. Officials of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said other Southeast Asian countries showed only modest declines in their refugee population. Refugee workers said they believed Thailand received special treatment from resettlement countries because it had nearly 80 percent of the Indochinese refugees in the region. UNHCR officials said there were 125,997 refugees in Thailand at the end of June compared with 156,220 a year ago. That excludes about 245,000 displaced Kampuchean along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The officials said the total for the rest of the region--mainly in Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong and the Philippines--fell 6 percent. The United States, France, Canada and Australia were the main destinations of those resettled, the officials said. [Text] [BK270144 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jul 84 p 1]

UK TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT DELIVERED--A new 75-million-baht transport aircraft from England was formally delivered to the Royal Thai Army yesterday. The Shorts-330 aircraft, which can fly up to 198 miles an hour and has a flight ceiling of 30,000 feet, was received by Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek in a ceremony held at the Aviation Division of the Army Transport Department at Don Muang Airport. The new aircraft can carry 34 people and will go into service immediately. [Text] [BK180222 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Jul 84 p 3]

FEMALE COMMUNIST JAILED--The Military Country yesterday sentenced Mrs Wimon Pianthamdi, 55, to 11 years and 2 months in jail after she was found guilty of being a member of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) and of two other

serious charges. The verdict, which cannot be appealed, ended more than 3 years of marathon trial for the ailing woman who was arrested with a huge cache of arms and ammunition in her house in Klongton on 10 January 1981. She was also found guilty of possessing illegal firearms and banned communist documents. Woman denied all the charges. [Excerpt] [BK120627 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 12 Jul 84 p 1]

UN-AIDED ANTIPIRACY PROGRAM--Songkhla--The anti-piracy programme was formally extended for another year yesterday with a donation of U.S.\$3.6 million (about 82 million baht) from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). A ceremony to extend the programme was held here and was attended by representatives from the Royal Thai Navy and UNHCR. A press release of UNHCR said the U.S.\$3.6 million will be for operation and maintenance of navy patrol boats, leased fishing trawlers and three aircraft as well as patrol craft operated by the marine police. Ten motorcycles and five pick-up trucks are also being provided for the police force here, it said. Navy Chief-of-Staff Adm Nippon Sirithon said donations from UNHCR are not enough to cover the operation cost of the anti-piracy unit and the Thai Government had to inject another 23 million baht annually for the project. [Excerpt] [BK200315 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Jul 84 p 3]

APRIL TRADE DEFICIT DOWN--Thailand's trade deficit decreased 6.5 percent in April from a year earlier, registering 7.2 billion baht (U.S.\$312.6 million) compared to 7.7 billion baht (\$335 million) in April 1983, the Bank of Thailand reported yesterday. Exports in April were valued at 13.2 billion baht (\$573.2 million) free on board, up 25.7 percent from a year earlier, the bank said. [Text] [BK200315 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Jul 84 p 19]

KING RECEIVES ENVOYS--At 1535 on 17 July, the king received credentials from Francesco Guariglia, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Italy to Thailand with residence in Bangkok. At 1555 and 1610, the king respectively received credentials from Ridha Bach-Baouab, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Tunisia to Thailand with residence in Beijing, and Brian K. Amini, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Papua New Guinea to Thailand with residence in Jakarta. On 17 July at 1640, the king granted an audience to outgoing Soviet ambassador to Thailand Yuriy Ivanovich Kuznetsov. [Text] [BK181258 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 17 Jul 84]

CSO: 4207/183

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

EDITORIAL CITES IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL ACTION IN COMBAT READINESS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 May 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Political Action in Combat Readiness and in Combat"]

[Test] The accomplishment of combat tasks can only be achieved when our armed forces have their men, their weapons and their means ready at all times in order to victoriously fight minutes or even seconds after orders are received. Therefore, one of the important tasks of political action is to contribute successfully by all means to enhance the armed forces' determination and will to fight, to raise the troops' alertness and preparedness and to make them fight well and win.

Lately, soldiers and people of the six bordering northern provinces, primarily those of Trang Dinh, Vi Xuyen and Yen Minh Districts, have actively and timely fought back and have been highly efficient in their struggle against the expansionist and hegemonist Chinese. These outstanding achievements resulted from many factors, one of which was good political action in combat and combat readiness.

Experience at the above units shows that the prime task of political action is to give everybody a clear understanding of the situation and missions of the revolution and of the armed forces in the new phase, of the enemy's plots and stratagems, primarily the Chinese expansionists' scheme to wage a manifold sabotage warfare and their warlike, land grabbing activities in the bordering provinces in the past days, and to allow everyone to thoroughly understand the concrete missions of their units in order to maintain a good preparedness for successful combat to protect the sacred borders of the fatherland.

Parallel with political education, political thinking and action must be reflected in the leadership of well organized preparation for combat readiness to cover all aspects of combat, from a fast, organized communication system and a rapid emergency deployment on order, to the assurance of logistical support for weapons, equipment and other items for combat.

Political agencies have to overcome with determination the oversimplification of the preparatory steps, they need to assist the political cadres of the units to formulate party activities and include political tasks in each step of combat readiness and combat missions. The political agencies should assign

active elements to key agencies and promote the exemplary vanguard spirit of party and group members in every task, from the enhancement of the quality and quantity of command, education of the troops, drills and combat training, to the units' education, food and quarters, and cultural and physical activities.

Equipping the troops with various weapons and teaching them techniques requires party and group organizations and their cadres to ascertain that each person in the unit master his equipment and weapon. Therefore, political action demands a thorough understanding from each and every person of the capabilities and effectiveness of each piece of equipment and weapon in order to fight successfully, bearing in mind the principles of economy and of developing the greatest effect in combat.

One of the important tasks to assure successful combat readiness and successful combat is strict compliance with the combat readiness regime. Political action needs to focus on assisting each cadre and fighter to have a correct understanding of the importance of carrying out the mission in a strict manner, and to assure that in any circumstance, men, weapons and equipment are combat ready.

Maintaining a partial combat readiness regime or causing unnecessary pressure due to a lack of rest and relaxation of the troops is wrong. Political action requires initiatives and the correct selection of ways and methods that are commensurate with the real situation of the unit to make combat readiness become a normal pattern of life for the troops.

Another important task of political action is the timely recapitulation, dissemination and adaptation of the experiences of those units and individuals who reach high combat exposure. Evaluation must be correct and the good examples as well as the interesting lessons of successful units and individuals must be timely disseminated to point out their experience and their weaknesses along with their related causes. This must be done in order to assist units, whether they are in the front or in rear, whether they are combat or support units, to learn effectively.

Closely coordinated with military training and combat organization, political action in combat readiness and in combat, when conducted permanently and continuously based on careful planning which includes concrete measures to assure active participation of all cadres, party and group members, and all people of the units, must achieve good results in raising combat capabilities and in accomplishing the combat missions of the units.

9548

CSO: 4209/343

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SINGLE COMMANDER SYSTEM DISCUSSED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Feb 84 pp 7-11

/Article: "The System of the Single Commander and Forging the Quality and Ability of the Commander"

/Text/ Summary of Senior General Hoang Van Thai's talk to cadre during a training conference at Military Region I.

The resolution of the Political Bureau on the change in the party's leadership structure with respect to the army and national defense clearly states: "The system of the single commander is a very important organizational factor in the process of building up the army and carrying out military operations. Under the direct, collective, unified leadership of the party in all aspects of military functions, this system ensures the development of the highest degree of responsibility in leaders of all ranks, maintains determination and flexibility in modern warfare, guarantees discipline and a well knit sense of organization in the process of strengthening, managing and commanding military forces in the performance of the mission.

The purpose of the system of the single commander is first of all to strengthen the direct, collective and unified leadership of the party vis-a-vis the army. This leadership for the entire army is concentrated in the Central Committee and exercised on a regular and direct basis by the Political Bureau and the Secretariat; for each unit, leadership rests on the commander and the military council (if there is one), on the political director political agencies and basic level organs of the party.

The commander, the military council, political agencies at the various levels and basic level organs of the party form a homogeneous structure of the new leadership system in which the commander has been given full authority by the party and state for a particular assigned task and in which the commander as an individual is responsible towards the party, the state and higher commanders while commanding military operations; under all circumstances he is to strengthen and manage his troops, carry out the policies of the party and state as well as perform the assigned tasks.

The commander also represents the party's will power in the military organization, the army being the instrument of strength for the state under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Each cadre-commander thoroughly applies the policies and position of the party to the political and military tasks of his unit, protecting the interests of the party and people. In all his activities, the commander employs his authority within the scope assigned to him, under the party's control. He operates in accordance with the party's resolutions and directives, the nation's Law and the statutes and regulations of the army.

The new system states that enhancing the party's leadership emphasizing the commander's individual responsibilities and developing democracy are parts of a unifying process that do not contradict each other, and ensure that the army's fighting strength grows ever greater. The system of the single commander is structurally linked to the party and political tasks. Establishment of the system of the single commander must be in conjunction with strengthening the party-political tasks. To violate the standards governing the party's activities, to neglect the party-political tasks is to violate the organic relationship of the commander and the party's organization. This would then affect the party's leadership and badly affect the unit's overall performance.

To show arrogance because of rank, to consolidate personal power, to be paternalistic and arbitrary, to neglect the party-political tasks, to restrain the democratic collective rights of cadres and soldiers of the entire unit, not to expand democracy, not to listen to ideas of the lower ranks, all reflect a behavior that is not proper according to the new leadership system, a type of behavior that violates the nature and tradition of our army, that reduces one's prestige and causes the masses to lose faith.

As properly understood from the above, we see that the commander in the army has a most important role and the great responsibility of commanding military operations, strengthening and managing his troops, carrying out policies and guidelines of the party and state as well as directing the tasks assigned to his unit under all circumstances; the new leadership system also requires from the commander high standards of quality, ability and conduct. As stated by the Resolution of the Political Bureau: "The commander must be absolutely faithful to the nation and people, to the ideal of the Communist Party, and he must have the ability and qualities suitable for the task. The commander must not only be professionally qualified, but must also thoroughly grasp the party's policies, position, standpoint and guidelines, be devoted to the party, be able to organize and perform tasks and have good character." This is also the guideline that establishes a series of issues for the cadre-commander as well as all party cadres in the army to study and continuously practice in order to bring about a good single commander system.

So, what training should the commander give himself? What qualities should he try to acquire? How must he conduct himself?

1. The commander must express the party's will. Therefore, the commander must first of all be absolutely faithful to the nation, to the people, to the party's ideal. Loyalty is the basic political quality, from which other good qualities will form. It is the basis for unifying the spirit and actions of the entire unit and for the commander to win the confidence and absolute obedience of all military personnel.

The commander must have the will to struggle to the end to successfully achieve the party's revolutionary objectives. Before the August Revolution, as well as during the resistance against the French and the Americans, that objective was to liberate the people and the classes, restore independence, unify the nation and establish socialism. Today, that objective is to build and defend the socialist fatherland, carry out the party's international tasks. Our country is in a state of peace and yet must deal with destructive war, and stand ready to fight all forms of aggression; at the same time it is advancing from small-scale production to socialist large-scale production. Festering conflicts exist; between the enemy and ourselves, between the doctrines of socialism and capitalism and within our ranks, among those who are devoted and those who lack initiatives. The nation is facing great difficulties; every family, every Vietnamese among us is going through great challenges. The commander's faithfulness must be demonstrated by his firm will in front of difficulties and challenges; he must be firm in following the party's policies, show determination in leading his unit to fulfill all assigned political, military and economic tasks. He must always maintain the quality of a communist, have the courage to win over petty individual thinking, overcome challenges and national as well as personal difficulties, in order to realize the party's ideal, to bring socialism to success and to protect the socialist nation.

2. The commander must do regular research and thoroughly understand all policies, positions, directions and strategies of the party, state and army; he must study fundamental issues in the Marx-Lenin doctrine, study military policies, people's national defense policies and people's struggle to protect the nation, so as to be able to apply the party's policies and guidelines in all situations, under all circumstances. He works at increasing his ability and that of his unit in order to carry out the party's policies and strategies and to fulfill every assigned task.

3. The commander is the party's cadre within the army. Thus in his tasks he must show a high devotion to the party. He has a clear concept of policy and correct principles; he is determined to defend the party's ideal, strongly fights against positions and actions that are contrary to the party's policies, standpoints and resolutions as well as against all negative elements in society. He knows how to link theory and practice and keeps his promises. When he evaluates social phenomena and events in military life he has a method for observing in

a global and objective way instead of being subjective and one-sided. He knows how to deal with correctly solved complex situations in daily activities within the area of his responsibility and mission. He knows how to distinguish between zeal and lack of initiative, progress and backwardness in his unit, achievement and weaknesses in work, strengths and shortcoming in cadres and soldiers...He truly loves cadres and soldiers of the lower ranks and fully expresses the party's concern for them; he correctly appraises the role of the masses, takes good care of the material as well as moral well-being of his unit.

4. In the new development phase of the army the commander must have the necessary knowledge on sciences and military arts, military tactics, social sciences, basic sciences...' he must understand and make innovative use of the art of command in military operations; he must have a thorough knowledge of weapons and equipment; he must continuously study and increase his level of knowledge so as to be able to provide military and political training to his unit. He knows how to organize and mobilize a movement for revolutionary action in the unit; he makes sure his unit has the ability to perform all assigned tasks. In addition to the above, the commander must also be knowledgeable on military pedagogy and training psychology in order to better train and educate his troops.

The commander must show exemplary behavior in military operations, assigned tasks and overall activities. The example set by the commander has great significance to the entire unit; the cadres and soldiers of the lower ranks must always follow the commander's example; they must use him as a yardstick to measure their own thoughts and actions. The commander must exhibit good behavior, be responsible for his own actions, be strict towards himself and serious in his work. He must train himself to be active, to take initiatives, to be determined and decisive in carrying out tasks; he knows how to be flexible, combining devotion to the revolution and scientific thought, working with methods and plans in order to be efficient and productive; he uses his mind in a scientific way and establishes priorities; for every phase, every task, he knows how to concentrate his energy and mind on essential "links" so as to push from there the whole task, change the situation and fulfill every mission. He discovers innovations, creates conditions to develop those innovations, selects and establishes models, develops them and publicizes them. He listens to ideas of subordinates and respects opinions of the lower ranks; he holds frequent inspections and provides guidance for the lower ranks; he reflects the party's policies and position in his actions while at the same time gaining experience, improving himself and strengthening the lower ranks and is never subjectively satisfied.

6. The commander must also be modest, simple; he is central to the unity of the collective group, of the unit. He is against arrogance and favoritism. If there is a lack of unity among the cadres, the commander must find out the cause and must be mainly responsible. He

must develop the mind of the mass and of the collective as well as develop organs and cadre to assist him. He must give thought to issues to be presented to the Military Council; he must have regular discussions with the Political Director and discuss the organization of tasks; he suggests ideas and gives guidelines to the participating organ; he knows how to organize meetings, to gather ideas from the lower ranks, develop the democratic rights of the organs, of the unit; he knows how to convince the lower ranks, avoids being dogmatic or depending on authority and order; he insures the development of the collective strength, maintains internal unity and solidarity in the common task of building the unit into a stable and strong body in all aspects, successfully carrying out every task under all circumstances.

The quality, ability and behavior of the commander are parts of the correct combination that cannot be separated and that are not acquired overnight. Not every commander has these qualifications from the beginning. Often they have to go through a long process of training through studying and on-the-job practice. If, in the past, reliance was placed on the collective Party Committee, today, with the new leadership system, the new responsibilities of the commander, of each organization, every organ has been clearly defined. Thus, every commander must clearly understand his new requirement and from there, devote himself to training, cultivation, studying while working, working while gaining experience. Superiors strengthen subordinates, members of the collective strengthen each other. The principal thing is that the commander must correctly understand his position and heavy responsibilities and devote himself to training in all aspects, on policies, position, concepts and thoughts as well as qualities, abilities and conduct.

Through study of the Resolution of the Political Bureau on the new change, perfecting the party's leadership vis-a-vis the army and national defense and bringing about the system of the single commander in the army, each cadre among us is of course concerned about responsibilities, but we must first start by increasing responsibilities, take pains to study and most of all train ourselves in practical tasks. We truly believe that we will create a good single commander system, increase the effectiveness of the party's leadership vis-a-vis the army, contribute to the strengthening of the army and complete every task successfully.

12745

CSO: 4209/356

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET-VIETNAMESE OFFSHORE OIL DEVELOPMENT NOTED

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Jun 84 p 3

[Article by N. Voronkov, correspondent of APN for SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA; Ho Chi Min]

[Text] Wherever one looks, one sees the boundless blue water surface under the helicopter. Suddenly, I saw flames coming from a large vessel. The thick black smoke obstructed our view of the extent of the fire--the worst problem sailors can have. But, as we approached, the fire subsided. And, when we were really close, not a trace was left of it. The vessel's helicopter landing-ground gently received our MI-8.

On this occasion, the threatening sight of the sea fire was planned. This was the way the Soviet search vessel "Mikhail Mirchink," intended for oil well drilling in the open sea, announced its success. The very first well it drilled in Vietnam's continental shelf in the South China Sea turned out to be successful.

I saw the first drops of this "black gold"--the first Vietnamese oil--and was happy together with the Soviet and Vietnamese geologists, drillers and sailors working on the joint enterprise V'etsovetpetro.

"The first V'etsovetpetro oil is a great labor victory of an international collective of many thousands of workers that became a striking demonstration of the effectiveness and activities of the comprehensive Soviet-Vietnamese economic collaboration," as Tran Quynh, deputy chairman of the SRV [Socialist Republic Vietnam] Council of Ministers, emphasized while speaking at a meeting in the sea shore city of Vung Tau. The Soviet Union sent experienced and highly qualified specialists to Vietnam and supplied them with the most advanced technology. The successful drilling of the first oil-bearing well created a reliable basis for initiating the industrial extraction of the "black gold" in the near future," he noted. Tran Quynh expressed his sincere gratitude to the CPSU, USSR Government and the Soviet people for their constant and effective assistance to the Vietnamese people in the cause of socialist industrialization of the country.

It is hard to overestimate the importance of oil for Vietnam. Practically all liquid fuel in the country is imported. Now, one can rightly say that new

perspectives have opened for the people's economy of the brotherly country. The beginning of industrial oil extraction will create real prerequisites for the development of Vietnamese petrochemical industry, which will allow them to significantly strengthen the development of Vietnam's socialist economy, will assist in solving many problems and will raise the standard of living of Vietnamese workers.

The "Mikhail Mirchink" captain-director, G. I. Milyutin, proudly shows us his unit. He has something to brag about. The Vessel is 150 m long and has a derrick, which allows them to drill the sea bottom at depths up to 300 m. It is equipped with advanced navigation instruments and everything necessary for the productive labor and life of the crew. Now, "Mikhail Mirchink," having drilled its first well, started the broad-scale work of studying the deposit and preparing the data on its magnitude.

Speaking about sailors and their difficult labor, one cannot help but remember their tremendous contribution in creating the Soviet-Vietnamese enterprise. During the first 5 months of the current year only, they delivered to the Vietnamese port of Vung Tau almost 16 tons of cement, metal structures and many other things, without which V'etsovpetro's activity would be unthinkable.

The night before the first day of 1984, the first well was drilled in the South China Sea. Now it produces oil.

V.A. Demidov, the head of the drilling installation, says: "Now, we carry out tests on bores at various depths. See that structure nearby that hasn't acquired a shape yet? This is the skeleton of the stationary sea platform."

Once, the SRV Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong, during a meeting with Soviet specialists, and thinking of Vietnamese oil, compared it to a sleeping fairy. The Soviet and the Vietnamese oil workers woke up the sleeping magician.

The extraction of oil on the continental shelf to the south of Vietnam was received with a great deal of enthusiasm in the country. The exploitation of the deposit will open broad perspectives for the development of an SRV fuel and energy complex, for building socialism in Vietnam, and will contribute to strengthening the might of the socialist collaboration.

12404

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

PRODUCT CONTRACTING PROBLEMS REPORTED IN BEN TRE

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 May 84 p 3

[Article by Dang Xuan Mai: "Product Contracting in Production Collectives in Ben Tre"]

[Text] According to the evaluation of the provincial leaders and the Agricultural Section of Ben Tre, since the promulgation of Directive 100 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, a product contracting pattern has been prevailing in agricultural production in Ben Tre Province. Since the winter-spring crop of 1981-82 when Ben Tre tested product contracting at 1 cooperative and 2 production collectives to learn from experience, Ben Tre presently has nearly 1200 production collectives and 7 cooperatives that implement product contracting, totalling over 92 percent of the total collectives which complied with the requirements, principles and intent of the new management structure have sincerely and strongly developed the dynamism and self-consciousness of the laborer in production and additional crop cultivation, thus creating many new factors in the development of production in local areas. In the meantime, the collectivization of agriculture in the province has been geared to a new developmental direction that is intensive and consistent. Up to now, Ben Tre Province has attracted nearly 80,000 farming teams with 43,000 hectares of land. Fifty percent of the land area has gone into collectivization in 1300 collectives and 7 cooperatives. Forty percent of the villages have basically completed agricultural cooperation under the popular form of collective production. As of the end of 1983, the Districts of Giong Trom, Ba Tri, Thanh Phu and Chau Thanh have put 70 percent of land and farming teams into collectivization.

However, after 2 years of implementing the new method of contracting, problems that needed to be solved in order to carry out the spirit of Directive 100 in the process of enlarging and improving the new management structure in the next period of time have been identified.

According to the leaders of the agriculture committee, recently the collectivization of land and various agricultural machines in Ben Tre, have not been homogenous, resolute and positive enough. Meanwhile, the administration and use of production materials that had been collectivized at many groups have not developed enough efficiency in production. Hence, many difficulties and complications have arisen, e.g., a certain number of group members have received

contracted land but have not engaged in production according to plan, and some teams do not even allow collectives to adjust contracting land. This has led to a situation in which each person cultivates his own land. This phenomenon has been quite common in collectives organized in the last 2 years, collectives which went into product contracting before the education of members and preparatory measures could be thoroughly completed.

The formulation of production plans for each year and each crop, along with the establishment of economic and technical norms such as labor norms and production norms associated with technical process, have not been seriously executed by the collectives and cooperatives. A number of collectives did not have concrete production plans for each year and each crop or did not have quotas defining responsibilities of the collectives, of the teams and of workers in each subdivision of work. Consequently, they experienced indecision and trouble when they went into product contracting. The distribution of cooperative labor and of management of each subdivision of work in the production process was loose. The teams and groups specialized in each subdivision of work were not consolidated and reinforced to enable them to fulfill important tasks such as earth work, irrigation, planting and prevention of diseases caused by insects, etc. Therefore, several collectives gave carte blanche to groups and cooperative members in product contracting.

Because the collectives could not actually master the inventory of production materials, the production plan and the technical measures, and although production has somewhat improved, therefore, generally speaking, rice output of the cooperatives and collectives increased slowly. According to the agricultural section of the province, among the six production units, there were only two collectives that have reached an output from 3.7 to 4.5 tons per crop; the other four have hardly reached 3.0 tons per crop. In the meantime, almost all the collectives and cooperatives in the province still produced unicolor [as published] and yet had to formulate a plan for the diversification of production and for the development of production skills. Cooperation between different collectives, integration of agriculture and industry, and integration for the reform of agriculture and that of commerce have not been paid enough attention and developed enough to meet the needs of production and of life improvement, etc.

Another subject of prime concern for Ben Tre Province that has a decisive impact on the development and the quality and quantity of product contracting among its collectives and cooperatives is the distribution and inventory of products.

Based on initial data, only 25 percent of those collectives and cooperatives that implemented product contracting distributed products according to labor; those collectives and cooperatives were concentrated chiefly in Giong Tron and Chau Thanh Districts and the City of Ben Tre. Those collectives have immediately promoted the strengths of the new management structure, instilled an encouraging mood among the collective members, and smoothly assured the three advantages. However, the compensation for work of the teams and groups specialized in subdivision of work and in production skills was not closely related to the final products, and the remuneration of management cadres was

not satisfactory and not commensurate with their responsibilities. The results of production operations and therefore, at many places, collective cadres focused their efforts in working on the product contracting lands but neglected community work, etc.

At present, as much as 50 percent of product contracting collectives in the province still use percentage sharing of output based on the area contracted. This situation prevails in collectives in Ba Tri, Thanh Phu, Binh Dai and Mo Cay Districts. With this percentage sharing of output, the collectives barely recover their paddy taxes, their two-way paddy-to-trade materials, and their seeds for the next crop. Furthermore, they are barely able to contribute to the collective fund and indirectly pay management cadres, that is, without being able to carry out the plan to give compensation according to work days. Consequently, the collectives cannot regulate input and carry out well the fundamental policies such as compensation for land products, and payment of dividends to collective members. Additionally, a number of collectives are rigidly carrying out percentage sharing according to the value of work days in the initial plan and are therefore led to a situation in which production does not meet planned output and product contracting quotas. Nevertheless, those collectives are not amending retribution based on actual output to assure the three advantages, and they are having to pay the extra expenses from the community's accrued fund. Consequently, the fund has decreased and the collectives cannot fulfill their duties vis-a-vis the government such as tax arrears, two-way contracts, etc.

Therefore, in the process of widening product contracting, many newly established collectives or some yet to be consolidated have gone into contracting while the basic requirements are not met, such as the collectivization of production materials, lack of careful reconditioning and training of cadres, all leading to a carte blanche contracting situation. These collectives have taken as much as 25 percent of the total number of collectives and cooperatives in the province. These collectives are still at the level of production solidarity teams and need leadership, training and improvement in order to become true collective economic units of socialism.

After a realistic survey and evaluation of the situation, the comrade leaders of the province and the Agriculture Section of Ben Tre Province were particularly concerned about leadership activities as well as about reconditioning of the cadres assigned to the movement, to production management cadres at the collectives and cooperatives, and to village and district cadres in order to better meet the needs of production development and agricultural collectivization in the province.

Although many difficulties and errors still remain, the new management structure and agriculture product contracting has created new strength, encouraged the movement of multicrop planting and of collectivization of agriculture in Ben Tre allowing it to make a new step forward, laid the foundation for the party and the people of Ben Tre to move ahead toward new results in economic development, and successfully achieved the completion of product contracting with the popular form of production collectives in 1984.

9458

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

CONCRETE PRODUCTION LINE INSTALLED--Assisted in capital investment and technical equipment by the Soviet Union and other countries in the Economic Mutual Assistance Council, Concrete Plant No 1 (Thang Long Bridge Joint Enterprise) has recently completed the installation of a concrete ties production line to meet the needs of restoring the Thang Long bridge and rehabilitating the national railroad system. The ties produced by this line will measure 1,435 meters and will be in conformance with international railroad norms. During the production period, although many difficulties concerning material supplies and technique have arisen, male and female workers of the plant took many initiatives, improved their technique to assure the progress of the work on the bridge and met the deadline. [Text] [Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 May 84 p 1] [9548]

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